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Conference style
by Matthew Parris
Life & Times, page 5



Poll puts Major under more pressure on eve of conference as public swings against treaty

68% are ready to throw out Maastricht

By PETER RIDDELL AND PHILIP WEBSTER

JOHN Major's difficulties on the eve of the Conservative conference will be underlined today with the disclosure that more than two thirds of the British public oppose ratification of the Maastricht treaty.

A Market and Opinion Research International (MORI) poll for *The Times* suggests a big shift in public opinion since sterling was forced to leave the exchange-rate mechanism in mid-September.

As Mr Major prepares to make his decision to press on with the treaty bill a central theme of his speech at Brighton on Friday, the poll shows that 68 per cent would, when interviewed, have voted against ratification if a referendum was held. Some 32 per cent would have supported the

treaty, after the reallocation of a third of don't knows.

The figures represent a big change from the position only two weeks ago. When a question about Maastricht was asked in June and in mid-September, before the withdrawal from the ERM and the French referendum, just over a half were in favour of ratification. The interviews were between September 25 and 29, before Mr Major's pledge last Thursday that Parliament would ratify the Maastricht bill in the current session. Although polls have consistently shown that a majority wants a referendum on the treaty, this was rejected last week by the Labour party conference and is strongly opposed by Mr Major. The findings are certain to be called in support by the referendum supporters at Brighton this week.

Ministers were busy yesterday leading a rallying operation in support of Mr Major and the government. The conference takes place against the background of worsening economic news and the prime minister's personal popularity slumping to its lowest level.

Gordon Brown, the shadow chancellor, attacked Mr Major for refusing to sack Norman Lamont as Chancellor. He said that it increasingly damaged Britain's reputation and left the country without a credible economic policy.

"Of course Norman Lamont has to go. Everyone except the prime minister accepts that," he said. "But he refuses to sack him because Norman Lamont, from the very beginning of the sterling crisis, has served as his air-raid shelter. John Major is completely associated with every successive disaster brought upon us by his Chancellor."

Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, accepted yesterday that the government was in a "difficult crisis" and spoke of the "disastrous setback" of being driven out of the ERM.

but said that the government would act "with clarity, consistency and conviction". He said: "I think our aims are clear and we have the chance next week to set them out again and get back on course."

Sir Norman Fowler, Tory chairman, contends that the conference will be seen as the turning point when the government started to fight back. In an interview with *The Times*, Sir Norman stresses the importance of the cabinet's decision to press ahead with the Maastricht bill because it has made the government's intentions clear.

He indicates that one theme of the conference will be Mr Major's leadership. "One of the things that people forget about John Major is that he takes a very strong position on issues. He thinks about them, decides and sticks with them, as he showed during the general election over separatism for Scotland and proportional representation."

Sir Norman claims that the cabinet was "totally united" during Thursday's discussion and denies that there are deep splits in the party. The Maastricht debate, he says, is "not something which is running through the wine and cheese parties; it is not running through the fund-raising meetings; it is not something which is preoccupying constituents up and down the country."

It is clear, however, that the Maastricht policy will come under strong attack this week from the leading Euro-sceptics such as Lord Ridley of Liddesdale, Lord Parkinson and Lord Tebbit. A speech to

Continued on page 14, col 4



Fading stars smell blood at the seaside

AS JOHN Major strives this week to hold his party together, and Norman Lamont fights to save his career, they can expect precious little help from the Darby and Joan brigade at Brighton.

The stars of cabinets past are taking themselves off to the seaside. It may not quite be their last hurrah but, as they enter their twilight years and their powers fade, they are determined to enjoy themselves while they still can, and while their words still count for something. The old bruisers will be at it on the fringe, laying into the government's economic and European policies, and each other, with a gusto, as ministers try to placate the faithful inside the conference centre. During the past few days they have been limbering up, and the air has been thick with the sound of old scold being settled.

While the cabinet maintains its veneer of unity on Europe, it is almost as if the surrogate barbs are being fought out in public by a collection of former

As the Conservatives gather in Brighton for their annual conference, the old bruisers are limbering up for a confrontation and the air is thick with the sound of old scores being settled. Philip Webster writes

heavyweights who were themselves once constrained by collective responsibility. The old stagers have all their faculties intact: only their memories appear suspect, if the comments of their colleagues are to be believed.

Lord Lawson of Blaby has been back in the fray in recent days as excerpts from his memoirs have hit the newsstands. In yesterday's extracts, Baroness Thatcher appeared to be the main target but there was no consolation for the prime minister. Lord Lawson blames the former prime minister for instigating the interest rate cuts that so damaged his own reputation as Chancellor of the Exchequer. He says that in 1988, the day after weekend reports of a split between them, she suggested a half-point cut in interest rates to

7.5 per cent. "To my eternal regret I accepted this poisoned chalice," he writes.

But there is no comfort for Mr Major. Lord Lawson writes of how he had doubts whether Mr Major, his number two as Treasury chief secretary, was up to the job. He says: "For a time after the 1987 election I was concerned that I might have made the wrong choice of chief secretary — a view I suspect was shared by Major himself. He found the job far more difficult than anything he had had to do before and had to work very hard to try to master it. He would come to see me, ashen-faced, to unburden himself of his worries."

For good measure Lord Lawson upsets another old adversary, Lord Tebbit. He claims that Lord Tebbit, now

one of the leading Euro-sceptics, supported entry into the exchange-rate mechanism. An incensed Lord Tebbit was moved to issue denials over the weekend. "Lawson's claim ... is not correct," he said.

Lord Tebbit also found himself on the end of an outspoken attack from another former cabinet colleague yesterday. Lord Howe of Aberavon, backing Mr Major's decision to press ahead with the Maastricht legislation, effectively called Lord Tebbit a "political turncoat" and branded him and others as "gloating Euro-phobes".

Lord Ridley of Liddesdale, who left the cabinet because of

his attack on the Germans, came to their defence last week when they were being blamed for Britain's troubles by Mr Major and Mr Lamont. He also suggested, not altogether helpfully, that Mr Major was "on trial" next week.

The critics are certain to be joined by Kenneth Baker, the former home secretary, when he makes an anti-Maastricht speech tomorrow. Lady Thatcher is not planning to speak. There is no need. Her very appearance on the platform on Thursday will be greeted wildly by the Euro-sceptics. This week in Brighton some old volcanoes will be out to prove that they are not yet dormant.

El Al jet crashes on block of flats

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

AN El Al cargo plane crashed into a high-rise apartment block on the outskirts of Amsterdam last night, starting fires in which dozens were feared killed, officials said.

Witnesses said the Boeing 747 exploded as it crashed into the Blijmermeer residential area southeast of the Dutch capital. Police said initial signs suggested dozens of people may have been killed. A spokeswoman for the government aviation service said there was no evidence that the plane had exploded before it hit the buildings.

Earlier Schiphol air traffic control said it was suspected that a bomb had caused the explosion. There had been no reports of trouble on board the aircraft as it left Schiphol Airport. According to television reports, there were dozens of fatalities. There were no immediate official figures for those killed or wounded.

A KLM Royal Dutch Airlines official said: "They saw a large fireball. As it was dark and clear conditions, they could see it happen." Dutch radio reported chaotic scenes with ambulances rushing victims to hospitals.

The captain and three other crew died instantly. Police and emergency crew personnel were attending the scene.

'Sir Sony Walkman' given an honorary knighthood

By JENNY KNIGHT

THE man who gave the world the Sony Walkman has been awarded an honorary knighthood by the Queen. Akio Morita, head of the giant Sony Corporation, was given the news at the British embassy in Tokyo by David Hunt, the Welsh Secretary, who is leading an investment mission to the Far East.

Mr Morita, 71, was one of three businessmen who founded Sony in 1946. He was the first son of the 15th generation of one of the biggest sake-producing families and broke with tradition by becoming an engineer instead of joining the family firm, making Morita sake.

The award is in recognition



Morita: saw potential in personal stereo

of his contribution to British industry and exports, as well as to Anglo-Japanese relations, according to the Welsh Office.

Sony has two factories in Wales. A spokesman said: "I should think he is delighted with this honour. We are all very excited in Wales. It is his success in Wales which has contributed to this award. Mr Morita met the Prince of Wales who was visiting Japan in the early Seventies. Mr Morita said he was looking for a European base and the prince told him if he came to Wales he would open the factory for him. He did and we now employ 2,600 people and produce a million televisions a year."

During the first world war

Mr Morita met the brilliant electronics engineer Masaru Ibuka. After the war Mr Ibuka opened a laboratory and invited his friend to join him. That was the beginning of Sony Corporation. The company started by making short-wave radio adapters and went on to tape recorders, the transistor radio, home videos and the Walkman.

After pioneering work on video and compact disc technology, Mr Morita led Sony into the software business, purchasing the American company CBS Records in 1988 and Columbia Pictures a year later.

His father was determined to give him a business education and from an early age the boy's holidays were filled by attending board and business meetings. It was his mother who sparked his interest in electronics. She loved Western classical music which he played on an electric phonograph made in America.

He became curious to find out how electricity worked. Mr Morita said later that from that moment he forgot about studying at school and instead devoted himself to mastering simple electronic theory so he could build his own machine.

Mr Morita helped to set up the Japanese School in Cardiff for the children of Japanese couples and was involved with Japan Week held last year in Wales.

ON OTHER PAGES

Sarajevo mercy flight

Four American and Canadian relief planes landed at Sarajevo yesterday, as the airlift resumed of emergency food and medical supplies to the besieged Bosnian capital. The first plane to land at 7.30am was a Canadian transport bringing food and vital radar equipment to keep the airport functioning. Page 6

Comedian hurt

Leslie Crowther, the comedian and quiz show host, was critically ill yesterday in a Bristol hospital, after his Rolls-Royce crashed on the M5 on Saturday. Page 3

Golf triumph

The women golfers of Europe crushed the United States 115-65 to win the second Solheim Cup at Inverness. Page 28

Law awards

Prizes totalling more than £6,000 are being offered in this year's Times Law Awards competition in association with the city law firm Freshfields. Students are invited to submit entries on "The Single Market - is it possible without a single legal system?" Full details in *Law Times* tomorrow.

Ministers dampen tax fears

By PHILIP WEBSTER
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

KENNETH Clarke and Michael Heseltine acted yesterday to quell rising fears that the government might be forced by the sterling crisis to bring forward an emergency programme of tax increases.

But amid renewed signs of Conservative divisions about the future direction of economic policy, they gave a warning that the most stringent yet controls on public spending will be needed as Britain faces life outside the European exchange-rate mechanism (ERM).

The two cabinet heavyweights led a concerted effort to dampen suggestions that what would be seen as the biggest policy U-turn of all is under consideration in the wake of the ERM withdrawal. Mr Clarke delivered a side-swipe to the Euro-sceptics whom he said would raise taxes.

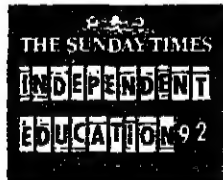
The message of the home secretary and the board of trade president on tax will be repeated firmly by Norman Lamont in his make-or-break Tory party conference speech on Thursday.

He will make plain that the tough spending targets set by

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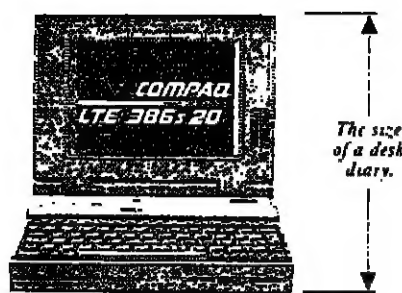
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July 20 1992



Crowther crash: the wrecked Rolls-Royce in which Leslie Crowther, the comedian and television quiz show host, crashed on the M5. It took rescue crews 19 minutes to free him from the car. Mr Crowther, left, was yesterday critically ill in hospital after Saturday's crash. Lyn Hill

Jenkins writes. He underwent a two-hour operation to remove a blood clot from the brain at Frenchay hospital, Bristol, where he was transferred from Cheltenham hospital when his condition deteriorated and he lost consciousness on Saturday night. Lyn Hill

Tout, general manager at Frenchay, which specialises in neurological cases, said: "He has stabilised after the operation and has shown some slight signs of improvement, but his condition remains critical." Mr Crowther, 59, was driving his ten-year-old Silver Shadow when it

swerved off the road and up an embankment and turned onto its roof at 2.58pm, as he returned from opening a carpet showroom in Brierley Hill, West Midlands. He was on his way home to Corston, near Bath, from where he was to go on to an evening charity event at

the Horseshoe Inn at Shepton Mallet, Somerset. Members of his family had been at his bedside throughout Saturday night. Police said there was no suggestion of alcohol being a factor in the accident but they had not ruled out the possibility of a heart attack.

French 'hold talks over BR routes

The transport department said yesterday that "various organisations" have expressed interest in running services on the BR network after privatisation, although it could not confirm that SNCF, the French state-owned operator, had held secret talks with the government.

The French are likely to opt for services on either the West Coast line from London to Glasgow or the East Coast route from London to Edinburgh, according to a report in *The Independent on Sunday*. It quoted an anonymous BR executive as saying the East Coast line, which has been electrified by BR at a cost of £700 million, would be the favourite.

The line, which is thought to be one of InterCity's most profitable, could even take modified versions of SNCF's 200mph TGV trains, the report claimed. The RMT transport union described the possibility that the state-owned French operator may take over BR lines after privatisation as "Alice in Wonderland stuff. It seems bizarre to talk about privatising our railways only to let a state-owned railway from elsewhere take over," a spokesman said.

If SNCF does bid for the East Coast line, it is likely to face stiff competition from Richard Branson's Virgin Group, which has shown a strong interest in running trains on the modernised line.

Woman bowled out

A cricket team's secretary has been told she cannot be present when it receives the trophy for winning the Rutland and district league because the prizegiving dinner is for men only. Other members of the club at Market Overton, Leicestershire, oppose the ban on Kate Don. 38. She said: "I feel very saddened by the whole affair. I have never come across this sort of thing in my life." The chairman of the league, John Mason, said: "We have booked a speaker who knows the dinner is for men only. With the speaker we had last year I would not have wished any woman to have been present. If I made an exception for her, how could I refuse the other ladies?"

Scent war stepped up

Europe's leading fragrance houses are using pressure to keep the price of perfumes artificially high, an executive of the Superdrug chemists' chain said yesterday. Superdrug sells perfume and aftershave, including Chanel and Yves Saint Laurent, up to one-third below the normal retail price at 15 of its 670 stores and intends to extend the practice. But the fragrance houses, which argue that cut-price perfume shatters the illusion surrounding the product, are refusing to supply Superdrug direct. Geoff Brady, a Superdrug director, said the houses were behind a refusal by glossy magazines to carry a £250,000 advertising campaign for the discounted perfumes.

Cruise fire 'not arson'

P&O has announced that two fires aboard *Sky Princess*, cruising in the Pacific off the coast of Mexico and carrying two Scotland Yard detectives investigating possible arson, are now thought to have been started accidentally. Det Chief Supt Douglas Campbell, from the Yard's serious and international crime branch, and Detective Sergeant Cliff Smith, a member of the fire investigation unit, were sent after P&O concern over two fires in the past week aboard the 46,000-ton ship, making its way south carrying 1,200 passengers at £1,500 each, and 500 crew, comprising British officers and cabin staff, Pakistani deck crew and Italian restaurant staff.

The cost of jam today

Traffic jams are costing industry up to £10 billion a year, it was claimed yesterday. A survey by a firm of consultants, Pera International, says that 80 per cent of manufacturers believe Britain's "poor" transport network hinders their competitiveness abroad. Many firms demanded immediate improvements in road and rail links to enable them to compete effectively in Europe. Seventy-one per cent said insufficient motorway capacity was the main obstacle and the biggest delays were said to be in the South East, including the M25, and London. Pera's chief executive, Ron Armstrong, said public expenditure cuts were expected shortly, but increased investment was vital.

Hitler relics for sale

Love tokens given by Hitler to his mistress Eva Braun will be auctioned this week. A tiny gold swastika charm bearing the initials EB and a Hitler painting of a Munich street scene were given to a Chester dealer in the sixties in lieu of a debt on a three-piece suite. A letter from the dealer, Peter Henshaw, who died several years ago, explains that just after the war a housekeeper to Braun's sister, Margarete Fegelein, swapped them for soap and cigarettes with a REME officer. The swastika, valued at £500-£800, and a watercolour dated 1912, valued at £1,200-£1,800, which have both been authenticated, will be sold tomorrow at Bichall's Country Auction Rooms in Cotebrook, Cheshire.

Witnesses scared off

Two out of five prosecution witnesses in Scottish assault cases have been threatened and many more are frightened of using the same waiting rooms as defence witnesses, a survey published yesterday shows. A third of all crown witnesses said that they would be reluctant to come forward again. One told Edinburgh University researchers: "When I returned home that day I advised all my family that, no matter what they see, they should turn a blind eye to it. I certainly wouldn't like any of my family to undergo what I experienced that day." Lord Rodger of Earlsferry, the Lord Advocate, said yesterday that the reluctance of witnesses was a matter of concern.

Christmas shoppers face the bill for sterling's collapse

By LOUISE HIPALGO AND HARVEY ELLIOTT

HIGH street shops, anxious to compensate for higher import costs caused by the collapse of sterling, are likely to increase prices around Christmas, when "consumers are less price-sensitive".

Safeway has taken the unusual step of appointing a working party dedicated to deciding exactly what the effect of sterling's devaluation on the company's pricing structure will be. It is due to report this week.

Retailers are anxious not to burden an already reluctant consumer by raising prices. In the short term, most will prefer to absorb the costs of more expensive imports rather than pass them on.

But John Hardman, chairman of Asda, believes it will not be long before the effect of sterling's fall seeps through. "Retailers are already overstocked. They will not wish to deter buyers by raising prices," he said. "But I think we could see the effect coming through

around Christmas when consumers are less price-sensitive."

It is the food and wine sector that is likely to feel the weight of more costly imports first. Sainsbury's, Britain's biggest grocery chain, says that the first price rises could be phased in over the next few weeks, although a spokeswoman added: "The situation is still so fluid. The franc could drop against the pound next week, and the differential on imported wine, for example, would be wiped out."

In the fashion sector, where stock is purchased seasons in advance, the effect of devaluation on imports is unlikely to be felt until the new year at the earliest.

Richard Dixon, spokesman for Storehouse, said: "We will be bargaining hard with suppliers. They too are anxious for business. Then the question is: how much do you absorb, yourself and how much do you pass on to the customer? The answer is in a difficult market, we believe, is to hold your prices."

In the holiday trade, those agents who make their own arrangements to travel to the Alps and America this winter face big increases in their costs because of the falling value of the pound. They could be paying up to 20 per cent more than they may have bargained for only a few weeks ago as accommodation, ski passes and even petrol now has to be bought at the new rates.

On the other hand, twice as many skiers who book package holidays through tour operators have their prices guaranteed throughout the winter at least.

Nearly all the large tour operators bought dollars, Australian shillings, French francs and other currencies in July when the pound was at its highest, enabling them to set their brochure prices and give "no surcharge" guarantees.

A handful of, mainly small, specialist travel firms who do not have the financial muscle to negotiate large amounts of currency are now having to

impose surcharges to protect their profits. If they are members of the Association of British Travel Agents they must provide full details of how they justify the increases, agree to absorb the first 2 per cent and must not impose the increases for at least 30 days before departure. So far, 12 of the 650 licensed tour operators have been given approval to make the surcharges.

Even so they are reluctant to go ahead because the industry has already been squeezed by the over-capacity in the market and a fierce "price war" that broke out among the big companies earlier in the year. Many small firms have seen their profits cut to the bone by the discounting, and are now facing a dilemma over whether to increase prices and run the risk of pricing themselves out of the market, or bearing the sudden rise in the price they must pay for the accommodation, they book on behalf of clients. On a ski holiday costing £400, charges are expected to be limited to around £10.

Airlines have generally not been affected by the fall in the value of the pound. A spokesman for British Airways said that as they received as much revenue in the currency of the countries they served, the overall effect should be "broadly neutral. We expect to see an increase in the number of passengers coming to Britain from America and parts of mainland Europe to take advantage of the falling pound," he said.

Meanwhile, the winners from sterling's misfortune are still calculating the effects of its fall. For Jaguar, for every cent the pound falls against the dollar, profitability is estimated to improve by £1.5 million. Against European currencies, the formula is more complex. Foreign importers are also in a dilemma. Because of the sterling free-fall, the prices of BMW cars in Britain could increase by as much as 14 per cent, although it is likely the company will absorb most of the costs.



Cook: 'Ministers must get a grip'

Whitehall fuel bill rises 18%

NEARLY all government departments spent more on fuel in the last financial year — when they were supposed to be cutting back.

The Whitehall fuel bill was £341 million last year, an increase of £52.7 million, or 18 per cent, on the previous year, according to the pressure group the Association for the Conservation of Energy, which analysed the government's own figures.

The disclosure is likely to embarrass the government, which is shortly to launch a multi-million pound television campaign to encourage the public to save energy. Robin Cook, shadow trade and industry secretary, said the figures were evidence that the government was not practising what it preached.

Labour will raise the issue in the Commons when Parliament returns later this month. Mr Cook said: "There is no room for hypocrisy over energy. Ministers must begin by getting a firm grip on energy use in their own buildings if they are to be credible when they lecture the rest of us."

Andrew Warren, the association director, said the increased fuel bills, as much as 68 per cent higher at Customs and Excise, went against the government's commitment to cut energy use by 15 per cent in five years and was "very poor housekeeping". He said overall spending on energy efficiency fell by 35 per cent.

"The Treasury, for example, spent nothing on energy efficiency measures in 1991-2, whereas they spent £13,600 the previous year. This is an abysmal example from the one department above all which should understand about investing for the future."

Man in the News

ITV pins hopes on Plantin principle

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

WHEN the late Frankie Howard was asked for his reaction to Marcus Plantin's promotion to LWT's director of programmes in 1990, he said: "When I first met him, he was just plain Mark Plant. But he has had to grow into a new job."

Now one of British broadcasting's biggest impresarios as ITV's newly appointed network director, Mr Plantin has come a long way since, he wrapped presents backstage for Bruce Forsyth's *The Generation Game* as a BBC trainee in the early seventies.

Charged with the day-to-day commissioning and scheduling of ITV's £500 million network programming budget, Mr Plantin, 46, will have more power over what 20 million viewers see each night on ITV than any of the 15 regional companies.

Together with Andrew Quinn, ITV's chief executive, he will preside over an aggressively commercial strategy, aimed at winning younger, affluent viewers and more advertising revenue in the newly competitive broadcast market. Mr Plantin, described by colleagues as a single-minded and no-nonsense professional with a somewhat impish and mischievous air, boasts a distinguished record in developing hit light entertainment programmes and fostering new talent.

He started in the theatre before joining the BBC in 1970, where he climbed quickly up the ladder to direct and produce such programmes as *The Two Ronnies*, *Wogan* and *The Generation Game*. Recruited to LWT in 1975 by John Birt, then LWT's director of programmes and now the BBC's deputy director-general, Mr Plantin was told to develop "a Saturday night ratings winner for ITV". The result was *Blind Date*.

Promoted to controller of entertainment in 1987, Mr Plantin steered LWT away from tired variety and games show formats to sitcoms and other comedy shows, such as *Friday Night Live*. He also locked in such high-profile

performers as Cilla Black, Hale & Pace, Michael Barrymore and Michael Aspel. Promoted to director of programmes in 1990, he has had less than two years of experience scheduling programmes.

Yesterday, however, other executives described him as an instinctive scheduler who has a gut feeling for what is popular. Mr Plantin, who has a reputation for shyness and modesty, himself admitted: "I fly by the seat of my pants on scheduling. It's a gut thing backed by research. You need to be a bit of a gambler."

David Elstein, director of programmes at Thames and one of the contenders for Mr Plantin's new job, said: "Marcus is clear-minded, rational, efficient and does not carry a lot of baggage in terms of commitments to old formulas and line-ups. He is still relatively fresh to the scheduling war and his ideas will not be stale."

Paul Jackson, director of programmes at Carlton and a close friend who worked with Mr Plantin at the BBC on *The Two Ronnies*, described him as "a consummate diplomat". He said: "He's quiet, and unassuming but not cold or calculating. He genuinely loves the business and the talent. He has a real competitive instinct." Another programme executive who has worked with Mr Plantin said he was tough enough to be his own man. "He is not someone they [the ITV companies] can push around," he said.

Mr Plantin's lack of experience in the production of drama, news and current affairs and other programme genres is not seen as a handicap. "He gets better at each job — the 'Plantin principle' rather than the 'Peter principle'," Mr Jackson said.

Mr Plantin lives in East Sheen, London with his wife Kate and two sons aged 11 and 8. He is a cultured man whose leisure time is spent at the theatre, opera or in conversation with friends over a glass of wine.

Mr Plantin plans to strengthen ITV's schedule with better comedy output and more blockbuster movies.

Healers put their faith in the high-tech touch

FAITH healing was once just a matter of the laying-on of hands. But no more: it is now called energy medicine and is becoming as high-tech as the chemical medicine it seeks to replace.

Valerie Hunt, a physiologist at University College of Los Angeles, told an international conference in London at the weekend how radio electrodes, as used by astronauts, enabled her to record the body's energy field. She then screened what was claimed to be the first video film of the aura surrounding the human body.

Ms Hunt, a grey-haired woman with a taste in tips that must have put neighbouring auras in the shade, gave dramatic accounts of the healing powers of "emergency energy medicine" and provided tips on aura reading. "Intellectuals," she said, had a lot of yellow — but do not be impressed by anyone who tells you that your aura is blue: it is frightfully commonplace.

Remarkable cures were claimed for a new healing

Electrodes and lasers have replaced the laying-on of hands, writes Jerome Burne

system that seemed seemed to combine homeopathy, acupuncture, lasers and molecular physics. The brainchild of Werner Kropp, from Switzerland, it was said to use magnetic energy to put "organisational information" into water, which could then be picked up by beaming a low-powered laser through it which, in turn, was used to stimulate acupuncture points.

It was claimed that the technique gave the sick body the information it needed to harmonise itself. Flu symptoms vanished within 48 hours, incurable hepatitis cleared up in weeks and there were hundreds of former asthma sufferers in Switzerland



who no longer needed their inhalers.

Dr Daniel Benore, the conference organiser, said that if healing were a drug its success in trials would mean that it would long since have been on sale. He has a four-volume study of more than 130 clinical trials, showing that healers can produce a beneficial effect, but he is having difficulty getting the book published.

Certainly, the idea that the body has an electro-magnetic

component of which medicine takes little notice seems plausible, but the energy that everyone was talking about did not always seem the stuff with which scientists are comfortable.

One unfortunate woman with an annoying cough was asked how she could possibly still have it with so much healing energy around. "It's something metaphysical," she explained. A member of the audience who asked: "What is

this energy?" was told: "In a word, it is love" by a healer and devotee of astrological medicine from Bulgaria.

The most contented people, were those for whom healing was indeed a matter of faith: they did it themselves, they knew people who did it, it worked, and if science and medicine did not accept it, so much the worse for them.

The troubled figures were the ones with a foot in both camps, such as Dr Bernard Grad, a biologist from McGill University in Montreal, who told of the ridicule he suffered and the impossibility of obtaining funds to repeat studies of healing.

"Dr Rindy Bakker, a GP from Sevenoaks, is one of a dozen British doctors who practise healing or work with healers. 'I worked for some time in Africa and there our patients often consulted a witch-doctor, so I have no problem with the idea that it is not only doctors who can heal. I just have my own witch-doctor here in England.'"

1992

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Coffee 'no risk to healthy hearts'

Fresh evidence clears caffeine of charges

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

ONE OF the world's most widely used stimulants may be safe after all. There is no evidence that drinking full-blooded, caffeine-laden cups of coffee causes heart attacks in healthy people, according to a new study.

Researchers at Toronto University used sophisticated statistical techniques to combine the findings of 20 important studies of the alleged link between coffee and heart disease.

The analysis, published in the US journal *Archives of Internal Medicine*, is the second to dismiss the scare that began in 1986 after American researchers found that US graduates who drank more than five cups of coffee a day ran more than twice the risk of a heart attack. That study was based on only 1,100 men and subsequent researchers found it difficult to replicate.

An analysis of 21 studies in six countries involving 103,000 people, published in the *New England Journal of*

Medicine last year, also failed to show any evidence of a link. "The two studies together are very convincing," Dr Ian Baird, of the British Heart Foundation, said. "We think coffee is a safe substance to drink." Five to six cups of coffee a day would be unlikely to cause harm, he said.

The coffee scare led drinkers to cut down on their habit and there was a boom in decaffeinated varieties. Caffeine, the world's most widely used stimulant drug — also present in tea, chocolate, soft drinks and medicines — was the suspected cause as it was known to cause irregularities of the heart beat. Drinking "de-caf" became almost mandatory for health-conscious Americans and coffee companies invested millions devising new techniques for stripping out the caffeine while retaining the flavour.

But just as coffee drinkers had got used to the decaffeinated variety, a further American study of 45,000 men

published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in 1990 found a 60 per cent increased risk of a heart attack among drinkers of decaffeinated coffee, but no increase among those who stuck to the regular variety.

Critics of the study say that coffee drinkers who knew themselves to be at higher risk of a heart attack might have been more likely to switch to decaffeinated coffee, distorting the results. But the researchers attributed the effect to the Robusta bean which is used to make about 80 per cent of decaffeinated coffee, suggesting it may contain chemicals that increase the risk of coronary disease.

A study in Scandinavia found some evidence to this theory by showing a link between strong black boiled coffee and heart disease. Boiling coffee releases substances from the bean that raise blood cholesterol but Dr Baird said coffee in Britain was prepared differently.

Art dealer to give faker his own show

By Sarah Jane Checkland, saleroom correspondent

ERIC Hebborn, the self-confessed faker who duped such eminent institutions as the British Museum and the Pierpont Morgan Library in New York, is to be feted by a London dealer in an exhibition starting on Thursday.

The exhibition is the initiative of Julian Hartnoll, a West End dealer who started his career selling Old Master drawings in the sixties. Having read *Drawn to Trouble*, the memoirs Mr Hebborn published last year, he approached the artist because he was "curious to know whether I, too, had handled any of his work".

Relieved to discover he was in the clear and impressed by the quality of Mr Hebborn's draughtsmanship, Mr Hartnoll decided to risk the wrath of other dealers by mounting a show of "the real Hebborn" to coincide with the publication of the softback version of the memoirs, now called *Master Faker*. Mr Hebborn,



Spot the difference: a genuine Corot drawing of a boy, left, and the fake, right, by Eric Hebborn; below

a genial and articulate cockney who now lives in Italy, is in London preparing for the exhibition, which will include portrait drawings of the artist and his former friend, the late Anthony Blunt, as well as sketches from antique sculptures and landscapes.

For buyers perversely interested in buying "genuine" Hebborn fakes, there will be a small selection including a drawing after Corot of a small boy. Prices will range

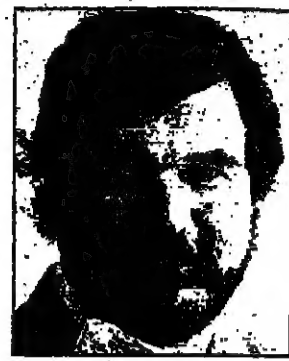
from £500 to £2,000. The "Corot" will cost £1,200.

Whereas Tom Keating, that other famous faker, claimed that he always left hallmarks in his works, such as giving subjects three hands, Mr Hebborn went to lengths to make his works indistinguishable from period originals.

He did that by using original paper, and even pressing fake collectors' marks (stamps denoting

ownership by a particular collection) on some drawings. Mr Hebborn relates in his book how he then took them for sale at galleries such as Colnaghi, and auction houses such as Sotheby's and Christie's, keeping them when the experts concluded that the works were genuine.

Mr Hebborn argues that all he did was to produce drawings. It was the experts who staked great claims for them, not him.



Tonight RSPCA officers will be fighting for their lives.



The pictures you see above represent some of the horrific realities of animal abuse handled by the RSPCA's Special Operations Unit (SOU).

Tonight, Channel 4 screens the first of a 3 part documentary series based on the undercover work of these dedicated officers.

Cock fighting is the subject of the first film.

In this alleged sport metal spurs are strapped to the bird's legs to increase maiming power.

Punctured lungs, gouged out eyes and pierced flesh are common injuries.

Fighting dogs form the basis of the second programme.

The dogs, usually American pit bulls weighing up to 90lbs, are trained to be killing machines.

They fight to exhaustion, many suffer horrific injuries, many die from shock.

The last programme in the series features a nightmare journey endured by live animals across Europe.

Animals are crammed into lorries. In some cases they are starved of food and water for over 50 hours. They arrive battered, bruised and exhausted.

All these investigations can take months of surveillance.

Infiltrating the seedy world of organised cruelty often means the RSPCA officers themselves become victims of abuse.

All the undercover inspectors have been threatened, some even with their lives.

These risks, however, do pay off. Since the unit was established, the RSPCA have successfully prosecuted hundreds of people.

The fight goes on. Join it tonight on 'Animal Squad Undercover', 9.00pm Channel 4.

For more information about the SOU and the other work of the RSPCA call 0839 662266. Calls are charged at 36p per minute cheap rate, 48p per minute at all other times.



Passive smokers gain legal backing

By ALISON ROBERTS

THE publication today of a legal opinion on employees' rights relating to passive smoking will probably encourage workers to sue employers for health damage and increase the pressure on smokers to kick the habit.

In a document published by Ash, the anti-smoking group, and backed by the Health Education Authority, Patrick Elias, QC, states that under the common law duty of care, an employer must protect his employees' health at work. Enough is known about the dangers of passive smoking to accept that this duty is broken by an employer if he allows workers to be exposed to tobacco smoke, Mr Elias, a barrister specialising in public law, suggests.

Any employee who "can establish the causal connection between his injury and exposure to environmental tobacco smoke" stands a good chance of successfully suing his employer. The opinion is likely to provoke the first UK test case on passive smoking.

Environmental health officers and health and safety inspectors could also prosecute employers under criminal law. Under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, charges should be brought by enforcement agencies if the employer fails to provide smoke-free air at work, Mr Elias states.

Mark Flannagan, assistant director of Ash, believes that the counsel's opinion will frighten employers into imposing smoking bans. "All the right circumstances have to fall together before we get a test case, but in the meantime this will encourage employers to comply with best practice."

The Health and Safety Executive in January stated that employers must provide special rest rooms for non-smokers from the end of next year.

Care costs 'forcing elderly to sell homes'

By OUR SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

SONS and daughters hoping to inherit the family home may instead face high bills for the care of their elderly parents. A report published today says that many elderly people have to sell their homes to pay for private residential care.

As house prices fall and care costs rise, the sale of a house now buys only a few years of care. The average house, selling for about £66,000, would pay for only five years in a nursing home charging at the income support limit of £255 a week, or eight years in a residential home charging at the limit of £160 a week, according to the report by the Family Policy Studies Centre.

Most private homes charge above these rates, especially in the South East. Once the money runs out, the costs fall on the family and social security. The report says that families could face bills of £30-40 a week to top up social security payments.

Francis McGlone, author of the report, said that the prospect of the expected legacy of the parental home being wiped out was "a potentially serious source of conflict" within families. "Elderly people are placed in an impossible situation. They may need the care but they are reluctant to deprive their children of an inheritance for which they have worked all their lives," he said.

The social security department takes the value of a house into account with other assets when assessing whether elderly residents of private care homes should pay their own way. Local authorities will do the same when they take over responsibility under the community care changes next April.

Fischer retains lead after sixth draw

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

The fourteenth game of the chess championship between Bobby Fischer and Boris Spassky in the former Yugoslavia ended in an agreed draw on Saturday night after 32 moves.

The score is now five wins to Fischer and three to Spassky, with six draws.

The winner of this world record \$5 million (£2.9 million) chess match will be the first player to take ten games. Fischer seems to be playing with greater circumspection after the budding he received in the first two games of the Belgrade section of the match, from which

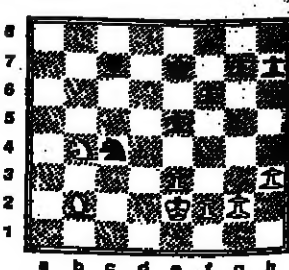
Spassky gained a win and a draw.

In game 14, Fischer reversed to accepting the Queen's Gambit, a line that he had previously tried in games four and six. After 15 moves, the positions appeared to be level and Fischer offered his opponent the opportunity of a draw.

Spassky refused, but by move 32 the situation on the board had levelled out so much that a draw was then inevitable.

Here are the moves of the fourteenth game. Spassky is playing with the white pieces:

White	Black	White	Black
1 d4	d5	16 Nb2	a6
2 e4	c5	17 Rf2	Rc7
3 Nf3	Nf6	18 Rd1	Rd8
4 e5	e6	19 Bf2	Bd7
5 Bxc4	a5	20 Nd2	e5
6 d5	c4	21 Rxc7	Rc7
7 dxc4	Qxd1	22 Rxc7	Rc7
8 Rd1	Ba6	23 Nd2	Nc4
9 Be2	Bd7	24 Nd2	b4
10 Be2	Bd7	25 Nd2	b4
11 Bb2	Nd7	26 Nd2	b4
12 Nb2	d4	27 Nd2	b4
13 Rf2	Rd8	28 Nd2	b4
14 Nf3	Kf7	29 Nd2	b4
15 Kf1	Bd6	30 Nd2	b4
16 Nd1	Bd6	31 Nd2	b4
17 e4	draw agreed		



The final position

80,000 defendants a year could lose right to trial by jury

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

ABOLITION of a defendant's basic right to elect trial by jury is being considered as a possible way to cut the growing number of cases that go to the crown court each year.

The Royal Commission on Criminal Justice is seeking responses on whether the right to choose the venue for the trial, which exists for offences such as theft, some burglaries, and assault causing actual bodily harm, should be transferred to the prosecution as in Scotland, with a possible right of appeal against the decision.

Some 80 per cent of 100,000-plus cases committed each year to the crown court for trial are triable either summarily or by jury. Defendants have an unfettered right to elect trial by jury; other cases are committed to the crown court on the discretion of magistrates.

The commission is also working out details of a new

tough disciplinary regime in which police officers could lose their present protection against disciplinary proceedings if acquitted at a criminal trial or if damages are awarded against a police authority.

The proposals are part of a package of reforms now being hammered out as the commission moves into the second stage of its investigations and hears oral evidence.

The commission also looks increasingly likely to allow unsupported confession evidence to be admissible, subject to a mandatory warning by the judge on the dangers of convicting on such evidence alone.

It may recommend disclosure of the defence case before trial, which many see as an abrogation of the "right to silence"; a new investigative body for alleged miscarriages of justice, possibly reporting to the Court of Appeal; a widening

of the grounds for appeal and a change in criteria so that the Court of Appeal orders a retrial if there is fresh evidence rather than considering the fresh evidence itself.

The commission's latest thinking is revealed in questions to be put to Liberty, (formerly the National Council for Civil Liberties), which has been called to give oral evidence.

John Wadham, legal officer, said that Liberty welcomed the trend in the commission's thinking, which seemed to indicate a "radical overhaul of the criminal justice system". He particularly welcomed the apparent recognition of the problems of police malpractice and the current police complaints system.

Civil libertarians and others would, however, be "disgusted" by the removal of the right to silence at the pre-trial stage, although he hoped that the absence of questions on right to remain silent under police questioning meant that this was "safe".

Liberty would also be against any move to give the decision on mode of trial to the prosecution, who would invariably seek to bring the case before magistrates, where they could be more confident of a conviction. Another concern was that the commission might not outlaw uncorroborated confession evidence altogether.

On the proposed reform of police discipline, the commission suggests this could mean that for minor breaches of the disciplinary code, officers face a new tougher standard of proof akin to that in civil proceedings, which is "on the balance of probabilities". At present, the standard of proof applied is "beyond reasonable doubt". A third reform being floated is that minor infringements of the disciplinary code be dealt with by formal warnings at operational supervisory level, leading to more serious sanctions.



Over and out: former Battle of Britain pilot who flew missions from Biggin Hill stood to attention yesterday as the Spitfire's 75 years as a military air base. The station commander's pennant and the RAF ensign were lowered and after a service of remembrance at the base's St George's Chapel two privately owned Spitfires flew past. Opponents of the closure recalled Winston Churchill's words when he visited the base at the height of the battle: "This station must never, never close." Above: a former wartime flyer bears a standard at yesterday's ceremony. left, a flight sergeant climbs into his Spitfire at the Kent base in 1941.

Opponents of women priests step up fight

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

LEADING opponents of the ordination of women priests will meet this week to discuss tactics as the decisive November vote by the Church of England's general synod draws near.

The meeting comes a few days before the Bishop of London, the Rt Rev David Hope, the third most senior in the hierarchy, tells London worshippers that the church is approaching a critical period.

In a letter to more than 400 parishes, Dr Hope is expected to say that he and the four area bishops will be on hand to counsel and advise, whichever way the vote goes. Other dioceses, which expect a hurt response from dozens of men and women whatever the outcome, have announced similar plans.

In spite of a plea by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York for both sides to behave with charity, the temperature of the debate was raised yesterday as senior bishops were reported to be critical of Professor David McClean, chairman of the house of laity.

Opponents told BBC Radio 4's Sunday programme that Professor McClean, chairman of the group that drafted the legislation, had abused his position by sending a letter to synod members explaining how the proposed new law would work. Professor McClean admitted that passage was funded by the Movement for the Ordination of Women.

Senior members of the synod's Catholic group, meeting on Thursday, will hear evidence that the vote could fail in two or possibly all three houses of the general synod. The Rev Peter Geldard, chairman of the Catholic group, says the vote could be sent down by the clergy and even the bishops.

A London parish church will tonight begin a £2,000 radio advertising campaign to attract youngsters. St Martin-in-the-Fields, which has taken 28 slots on LBC, expects criticism from traditionalists.

Gang steals £25,000 parrots

Parrots worth £25,000 were stolen yesterday in what is believed to be Britain's biggest bird theft from Paradise Park, Hayle, Cornwall.

Mike Reynolds, the park's owner, offered a £5,000 reward for information leading to the capture of the thieves and the return of the birds. The raiders evaded alarm systems and cut through wire fences to steal 21 birds, including a pair of scarlet macaws, two pairs of double yellow headed Amazon parrots and a pair of roseate cockatoos.

Police believe the thieves knew what they were looking for and had an expert knowledge of birds. But the raiders may be unable to sell the birds on the black market as they are fitted with electronic implants containing details that can be matched against a national stolen bird register.

Bomb charge

Michael Bradbury, 50, of Poole, Dorset, will appear before Bournemouth magistrates today in connection with an alleged firebomb plot against Sainsbury supermarkets. He is accused of blackmail and threatening to commit damage.

Tourists die

Two British holidaymakers died when their car crashed near Malaga, southern Spain. Ian Morgan, 20, and his friend Neil Bennett, 22, came from Cardiff.

Beet the record

A 37½lb beetroot shown by Ian Neale, a nurseryman from Newport, Gwent, at the giant vegetable championships at Spalding, Lincolnshire, was claimed as a world record.

Bond winners

Winners in the weekly Premium Bonds prize draw are: £100,000, number 28PL 880859, who lives in Avon (value of holding, £1,510); £50,000, 7EB 922283, Oxford (£120); £25,000, 12FL 848552, Chwyd (£1,503).

Women share chore of balancing books

MOST women are financially astute, rarely overdrawn and share all main cash decisions with their partners, according to a survey published today.

However, many are unhappy with the quality of bank services, complaining of sexism. Good Housekeeping, which conducted the survey in association with Acuma, a division of American Express, found 69 per cent of 1,000 respondents felt competent at managing their finances. Only 6 per cent ignored their financial situation "until it becomes a crisis" and 2 per cent found money matters "dull and boring".

Half of those questioned said women were better at managing money than men, with 43 per cent disagreeing. Eighty-nine per cent of mar-

ried women shared important financial decisions with their husbands. Some 61 per cent were never overdrawn, a further 19 per cent went into the red twice a year or less, 5 per cent had an overdraft "nearly every month" and 4 per cent "all the time".

An overwhelming 98 per cent had at least a rough idea of their financial status at all times, with 61 per cent keeping an accurate record of all incomes and outgoings.

Thirty-seven per cent felt they were treated differently by banks because of their sex, with half of those saying they were expected to take advice without question. The results were drawn from analysis of 1,000 responses to a questionnaire in the magazine that 6,000 answered.



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Fear of history repeating itself marks German anniversary



Schoenhuber: hailed support for the right

THERE has been little joy in the second anniversary of German reunification, least of all for an increasingly embattled Helmut Kohl. During his attempted walkabout at the anniversary celebrations in Schwerin this weekend, jeers and shouts of "piss off" drowned the intermittent applause. Eggs were thrown at the Chancellor, and one man punched him.

Helmut Kohl found little to celebrate as he oversaw the second anniversary of German unification, writes Anatol Lieven from Schwerin in eastern Germany

At the former Sachsenhausen concentration camp, near Berlin, where a Jewish memorial was destroyed last week, seven thousand people turned out yesterday at a rally of political, church and Jewish leaders and even pop stars to condemn racism and alert Germans to the neo-Nazi menace. Robert Gurmman, deputy chairman of Germany's Jewish community, said Bonn's politicians were bickering among themselves rather than working out how to deal with the neo-Nazi threat. "They should bring some

order to their own house," he told the crowd in a field outside the Sachsenhausen camp. In Frankfurt, Amos Oz, the Israeli author, condemned German anti-Semitism after receiving the peace prize at the Frankfurt book fair. "It is not the past that burns in Sachsenhausen," he declared. "No, it is the German present and German future that are in danger of catching fire."

In Schwerin, a few hundred yards from Chancellor Kohl, left-wing extremists made organised attempts to disrupt the proceedings, but were broken up by a massive police presence. Left-wingers also rioted briefly in Berlin. Neo-Nazis celebrated reunification with marches in several

cities, giving Nazi salutes and shouting "foreigners out!" In half a dozen towns homes for asylum seekers were attacked with petrol bombs by small groups of men, and Jewish cemeteries were defaced. The head of Germany's anti-subversion department warned that the growth of political extremism had worrying parallels with the Weimar republic during the 1920s.

East Germans in the crowd at Schwerin seemed angry with the west German political classes in general. However, criticism is concentrated on Mr Kohl because of his past promises, which also included a guarantee that west German taxes would not have to rise to pay for the costs of reunification.

The failure to raise taxes has greatly increased Germany's budget deficit, in turn forcing the Bundesbank to raise interest rates and harm other Western economies. The influential liberal weekly *Die Zeit* said that, because of these "fundamental lies" by the Chancellor, it would be impossible for him to implement a new policy. There is now a general belief among German politicians that the next election will result in a "grand coalition" between Christian Democrats and Social Democrats under a new chancellor.

In a television address to mark the unification celebrations, Mr Kohl admitted that "the economic cure of the new federal states will last longer and cost more than we thought. Two years of German unity have been a learning process for all of us, including me."

EC prepares for Birmingham meeting

Suspicion of Britain mars summit agenda

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN LUXEMBOURG

EUROPEAN Community foreign ministers assemble here today for another round of group therapy on the Maastricht treaty, paralysed by the disenchantment and lack of interest of Europe's voters. The meeting will be the final rehearsal for several initiatives that Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, hopes to float at the Community's special summit in Birmingham next week. It takes place in a climate polluted by threats, fears of a "two-speed Europe", neurotic money markets and mutual mistrust.

Britain is still the object of deep suspicion in other capitals, where the fear is that, despite what he says to the contrary, John Major would be happy to see the Maastricht treaty die. The prime minister's announcement that he will restart Maastricht debates in the Commons in the New Year has eased some anxieties but has not dispelled the feeling that he and his ministers are not true believers in the treaty's value.

But open discussion of Europe reshaping itself, if Maastricht does not survive, into a hierarchy divided by power and wealth has also stirred unease among some of Britain's Community partners. Theo Waigel, the German finance minister who is keen on a single-currency zone dominated by the mark, has been attacked by leaders of weaker EC economies for threatening to dissolve the Community's tradition of cross-subsidy from rich north to poor south. The Dutch government, whose economic interests would force it into a mark currency zone, loathes the idea of a political union dominated by Germany.

Mr Hurd will today hope to re-establish Britain's priorities: helping Eastern Europe and making the EC more open and accountable. Europe's governments are all theoretically in favour of Eastern Europe, just as they are of greater openness and "subsidiarity", effectively the lessening of the European Commission's power. But practice is another matter. New trade agreements with Romania and Bulgaria may be tripped up if the Germans balk at opening Western Europe's black-cherry markets to more competitive fruit from the East. The Greeks are already holding up the deals for fear of an avalanche of cheap Bulgarian goat meat.

Similar difficulties will complicate Mr Hurd's first practical move on subsidiarity. He will propose that governments should be able to hold up a draft EC law by arguing that its purpose could be as well, or better, served by national governments. Ministers would base their claim on the definition of subsidiarity written into the Maastricht treaty which is not yet in force.

Although their EC ambassadors agreed the change last week, France and Germany have served notice that they do not want this anti-Brussels weapon used too hastily. Denmark also has reservations.

Subsidiarity is a minefield into which Mr Hurd has only just walked. French officials are even sniffling about it being anything new. "Just as M Jourdain [in Molière's *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*] was talking prose without knowing it," said one diplomat, "so the EC has been practising subsidiarity for 20 years without being aware of it."

Britain next wants agreement at Birmingham on a list of national prerogatives, such as the power to award "stars" to hotels, which are off-limits to EC action. The Birmingham summit will also probably decide to open meetings of EC ministerial councils to the public. Officials anxious to respond to the concerns of the Danish voters who turned Maastricht down last June have found that 1987 Community rules already allow for public access.

Madrid: Mr Major received Felipe Gonzalez, the Socialist prime minister of Spain, for his refusal to re-negotiate Maastricht (Edward Owen writes). "In Birmingham it will have to be clear, it is not fitting to re-interpret something that has not been interpreted; it is not worth negotiating something that was, until June, and still is, at a satisfactory point of equilibrium," Señor Gonzalez told Barcelona's *La Vanguardia* newspaper.



Fleeting visit: Royal Naval sailors from three ships, the HMS Ledbury, Dulverton and Brocklesbury, enjoying a traditional Lithuanian welcome when they arrived at the port of Klaipeda over the weekend

Unions to decide on Italy strike

FROM PHILIP WILLAN IN ROME

ITALIAN trade union leaders meet today to decide whether to call a general strike against the austerity measures introduced by Giuliano Amato, the prime minister, in an attempt to cut the country's spiralling public debt. The debt is already 106 per cent of gross national product.

Signor Amato's embattled four-party coalition finds itself under attack from all sides, with huge and sometimes violent trade union demonstrations signalling the public's distaste for his belt-tightening programme. The triumph of the Northern League in local elections in Mantua last week showed the strength of the popular rebellion against the established political parties.

The league became the largest party in the city with nearly 34 per cent of the vote, while the Christian Democrats and Mr Amato's Socialists saw their support virtually halved.

While France's political world continued to await a sign from the ailing President Mitterrand, Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, yesterday climbed the debris of M Mitterrand's Socialist party and cleared a launch pad for a possible bid for the Elysée palace.

Spurred on by polls that put him at the top of the popularity charts, M Delors gathered half a dozen of the government's younger and more glamorous ministers about him in the Breton town of Lorient for the inauguration of his own political "club" within the Socialist party. To be known as *Témoin* (Witness), the group aims to "renew a social democracy which has run out of steam".

France, M Delors said, had become "too tempered and disenchanted, its democratic life full of wrinkles, its state bogged down and fractious, its social harmony in shreds". Nothing could have provided more eloquent testimony to the dilapidated state of the one-party party of hope than a speech by Lionel Jospin, the man who succeeded M Mitterrand as its first secretary and ran it for most of the 1980s.

Delors fires first shots in his fight to succeed Mitterrand

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

Giscard d'Estaing and Jacques Chirac, the two eternal presidential candidates from the centre and right. But M Delors and his team recognise that a real political race would be quite different from a popularity poll.

Elsewhere last week, the chattering classes homed on the senate, where the opposition UDF and RPR parties, which control the ineffectual upper house, squabbled and then agreed on who would succeed Alain Poher, its president for the past 24 years who retires at the age of 85. René Monory, a centrist politician who started as a rural garage owner, got the job in what was depicted as an act of unusual harmony between the two parties.

M Mitterrand, 76, who is working only one day a week on doctor's advice, could draw a little comfort from a six-point jump in his still low popularity ratings, according to polls published at the weekend. The experts put the rise down to sympathy for his illness and the success of the "yes" side in the recent referendum on Maastricht.

ABBEY NATIONAL INTEREST RATES

Change of Interest Rates

INVESTMENTS

With effect from 6th October 1992 the rates of interest listed below will apply to savings and investment accounts currently available.

TESSA	New Rates	Gross %	Net %
	Rate	Rate	NA
ABBEY NATIONAL HIGH YIELD BOND (Annual Interest)		9.40	7.05
	£25,000 up to £49,999	9.10	6.83
	£50,000 up to £24,999	8.80	6.60
(Monthly Interest)		9.02	6.77
	£25,000 up to £49,999	8.74	6.56
	£50,000 up to £24,999	8.46	6.35
ABBEY NATIONAL INVESTMENT ACCOUNT (Annual Interest)		8.25	6.19
	£25,000 up to £49,999	7.85	5.89
	£50,000 up to £24,999	6.95	5.21
(Monthly Interest)		7.95	5.96
	£25,000 up to £49,999	7.58	5.69
	£50,000 up to £24,999	6.74	5.06
INSTANT SAVER (Annual Interest)		7.70	5.78
	£25,000 up to £49,999	7.30	5.48
	£50,000 up to £24,999	6.80	5.10
	£2,500 up to £4,999	6.60	4.95
	£5,000 up to £24,999	6.40	4.80
	£1 up to £499	3.00	2.25
HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNT (Annual Interest)		6.95	5.21
	£25,000 up to £49,999	6.25	4.69
	£50,000 up to £24,999	5.10	3.83
(Monthly Interest)		4.45	3.34
	£25,000 up to £49,999	6.74	5.06
	£50,000 up to £24,999	6.08	4.56
	£2,500 up to £4,999	4.98	3.74
	£1,000 up to £2,499	4.36	3.27
CURRENT ACCOUNT (Monthly Interest)		1.50	1.13
Accounts no longer available for opening:			
HIVE STAR (Annual Interest)		5.45	4.09
	£25,000 plus	5.15	3.86
	£10,000 up to £24,999	4.55	3.41
	£5,000 up to £4,999	4.15	3.11
STERLING ASSET+ (Annual Interest)		8.25	6.19
	£25,000 plus	7.85	5.89
	£10,000 up to £24,999	6.95	5.21
(Monthly Interest)		8.02	6.02
	£25,000 plus	7.64	5.73
	£10,000 up to £24,999	6.79	5.09
TAXSAVER (Annual Interest)		5.65	4.24
	£10,000 plus	5.15	3.86
	£5,000 up to £4,999	0.50	0.38
SAVER (Annual Interest)		0.50	0.38

OTHER ACCOUNTS
Interest rates on investment accounts no longer available and not listed are obtainable from your local branch.

A Interest will be paid gross to eligible non-tax payers who register with us as required by the Inland Revenue.
NA Net of basic rate income tax (currently 25%). You may be able to reclaim this tax from the Inland Revenue. * Tax free return under current legislation. * Rates include bonus (1% gross p.a./0.75% net p.a.). Bonus applies if no withdrawals made within 12 consecutive months.



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Muslims expect UK troops to save them from war

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT, ADAM LEBOR IN KARLOVAC AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

BRITISH troops who are to be sent to Bosnia-Herzegovina are regarded by Croat and Muslim communities there as their potential saviours from Serbian aggression. Those high expectations have underlined the dilemma facing the countries contributing to the expanded United Nations protection force in Bosnia.

At the weekend, aid flights to Sarajevo resumed one month after an Italian relief plane was shot down. Five planes landed, and food and medical supplies were unloaded as well as radar equipment to help the air lift.

The British soldiers will be flying into a war zone with a UN mandate that restricts them to a humanitarian mission, guarding food relief convoys to the victims of the fighting. But it has become clear that the suffering communities expect greater involvement in the civil war by the British troops.

Defence sources said it had to be made clear to the people in Bosnia that British troops were not being sent to stop the fighting. The first British troops, part of an advance party of 300-400 soldiers, are expected to arrive in Bosnia in about two weeks.

A reconnaissance party returned from Bosnia at the end of last week after failing to reach any accommodation with Serbian warlords who refused to allow the British team to cross their battle lines for a humanitarian mission that they saw as an attempt to help only their Croat and Muslim rivals.

London opposes any extension to the UN mandate that would lead to military intervention. Ministers say that if the British battle group suffers an unacceptable level of casualties they will be withdrawn.

After an appeal from UN relief workers hundreds of Bosnian Muslims, expelled from their homes and held for months in Serb-run detention camps, are to find sanctuary in the West. Many of the refugees, now held in a former army barracks in Karlovac, Croatia, say they witnessed atrocities by Serb forces. Western countries have so far agreed to take two-thirds of the refugees in the barracks.



Several refugees there claimed that in the camps educated people and community leaders were singled out to be executed. Amir, who was too frightened to give his real name, had been taken to a camp under Red Cross inspection in Trnopolje, northern Bosnia, after being held in Omarska, a notorious Serb-run camp. He said he was one of six survivors of a massacre near the village of Skender Vakuf. "We were put on buses and the Serbs said they would take us to meet our families,"

said Amir. "After a while we stopped and they ordered us out. They separated the women and children and took them away in another bus. They lined us up in front of a ravine. I don't know if somebody pushed me or I jumped, but I tumbled down. There were a lot of bodies and I heard shooting and grenades being thrown."

In Belgrade, a UNICEF spokeswoman said that children would die in Serbia and Montenegro this winter because of sanctions. "The UN children's fund is calling for a partial lifting of sanctions so that heating oil can be imported."

Secret courts

Algiers: Algeria has created secret courts to expedite terrorism and subversion cases in an attempt to counter violence blamed on Muslim fundamentalists, the official APS news agency said. The age of responsibility for such crimes has been lowered to 16. (AP)

Venus attracts

New York: Russia has begun selling some of its best top-secret satellite photos taken by space cameras. *The New York Times* reported. The paper said the photographs, circulated among reconnaissance experts, were far superior to any sold before. (Reuter)

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Bush and Clinton opt for high-risk format on debates

FROM JAMIE DETTMER IN WASHINGTON

ADVISERS to President Bush and Bill Clinton, his Democratic challenger, have set the stage for a frenetic finale to the 1992 election by agreeing at the weekend to compress three presidential debates into just nine days.

Both campaigns accept that holding the debates in such quick succession is likely to add a new element of uncertainty to the election. By opting for the tight timetable and for a rule change which would transform the debates from being the glorified press conferences of past elections into more free-wheeling encounters, both the Bush and Clinton camps have chosen a high-risk strategy.

A further wild card has been thrown into proceedings in the shape of Ross Perot, the Texan billionaire who rejoined the race for the White House last week. Mr Perot is likely to become the first third-party candidate ever to participate in presidential debates. The Dallas businessman showed no signs yesterday of planning to decline an invitation to participate.

Both the Bush and Clinton camps expressed satisfaction yesterday with their agreement on the format of the 90-minute debates. After three days of haggling, a final agreement was drawn up on Saturday. The first debate will take place at St Louis on Octo-



ber 11, the second in Richmond, Virginia, on October 15, and a third in East Lansing, Michigan on October 19. One of the debates will be conducted by a panel of three journalists and is unlikely to see much direct sparring between the candidates. In Richmond, the debate is likely to be more spontaneous with the candidates responding to questions from the audience. The Michigan debate will be conducted for half the time by a moderator and for 45 minutes by a panel of journalists. A vice-presidential debate will take place on October 13 in Atlanta.

In some ways the ground rules seemed to be shaped by Mr Clinton's preferences. Last month, Bush campaign managers refused to dispense with the panel format whereby journalists quiz the candidates about their policies. They feared that the president

would suffer if there was more spontaneity in the debate. The Bush camp also wanted the final debate to take place only two days before polling day, which, they believed, would give the president a chance to catch up if he was still trailing in the opinion polls.

The Republicans clearly hope now that the compressed schedule and the varied format will shake up the election and help Mr Bush narrow Mr Clinton's lead.

The Bush camp is entering the debates in the same spirit with which it greeted Mr Perot's re-entry into the race. The president's advisers feel that Mr Bush has little to lose and that anything unpredictable which could force Mr Clinton to miss a stride is welcome. However, there is still some nervousness about how Mr Bush will fare in the debate. During talks with the Democrats over the ground rules, the Republican negotiators tried to protect their candidate by arguing that he should be allowed to use props such as notes, which have traditionally not been permitted in presidential debates. That effort was rebuffed by the Democrats and Mr Clinton was quick to publicise the Republicans' suggestion. "Can you imagine?" he asked journalists travelling with him in the industrial Midwest. "It took my breath away."



Trail of terror: the scene in Pinellas Park, Florida, after tornadoes with 90mph winds killed at least three people. President Bush, who was criticised for his handling of the previous Hurricane Andrew, flew to Florida to see for himself and narrowly escaped one of the storms

Mr Clinton was not the only one to start an embarrassing display of pre-debate manoeuvring. All the candidates want to reduce media expectations of their performances, in order to blunt criticism should they fail to do well in debate. On Friday, Mr Clinton and his aides sought to portray Mr Bush as a world champion in the art. "Mr Bush is a good debater in spite of all his talk about being at a disadvantage to me because I went to Oxford," Mr Clinton said in Missouri. "I never studied debates at Oxford."

Last week Dan Quayle, the vice-president, said that he might not do well in his debate because while he had gone through state education, Senator Al Gore, Mr Clinton's running mate, had attended private schools.

One point the Democrats lost in the debate about debates at the weekend was over whether Ross Perot should be invited to participate. Mr Clinton's negotiators had opposed his attendance. The Clinton camp is worried that his presence might make viewers think Mr Bush is being

ganged up against. They also believe Mr Perot will act as an obstacle to Mr Clinton striking directly at the president.

"I think he just gets in the way," said Pat Panella, a member of the Democratic National Committee. "It's going to give Bush less time to answer the tough questions."

The debates are a big opportunity for Mr Perot to get back into the race. Pollsters are already arguing that he is going to find it difficult to make an impact. A *Newsweek* magazine poll conducted on Thursday and Friday showed Mr Clinton retaining an 8 per cent lead over Mr Bush and gave Mr Perot only 14 per cent of the vote.

A Gallup poll at the weekend suggested that the voters' angry anti-politics mood,

which Mr Perot exploited in the spring and summer is fading fast. The survey found that only one in four Americans could be classified as "angry" about the political system now as compared to four in ten last April. Some surprisingly positive views of the two main candidates emerged. Six in ten of those asked agreed that Mr Perot did not have the "kind of personality and temperament it takes to serve effectively as president."

As polling day approaches it becomes more likely that Mr Perot will be marginalised. If he is to have any influence on the outcome of the race, his campaign must get going this week. Apart from buying three half-hour slots for commercials on television networks,

Mr Perot has still not drawn up any campaign plans. He spent the weekend in Dallas with a handful of close aides, none of whom has political experience, trying to plot his strategy. Mr Perot's main impact is likely to come in Texas and Florida, two states crucial to Mr Bush's re-election prospects.

The president has continued to campaign hard in Florida in an effort to overcome criticism of his administration for its handling of the aftermath of the August hurricane. He was in Clearwater and Fort Lauderdale on Saturday as tornadoes wrought further destruction to the state. Mr Bush escaped one tornado by just over an hour, hopping aboard Air Force One at Clearwater's airport.

They talked about who's who and what's what. She had plenty of ammunition.



War hero puts courage to test on the political stage

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

FOR James Bond Stockdale last week was perhaps the most extraordinary of his long and remarkable life. One minute the Vietnam war hero was an academic in California writing a book on the Greek philosopher Epictetus. The next he was Ross Perot's running mate, candidate for vice-president of the United States.

Mr Stockdale, 68, a retired admiral, flew to Dallas for Mr Perot's announcement armed with an appropriate Epictetan pearl: "A life not put to the test is not worth living." A week tomorrow he faces the ultimate challenge. In a vice-presidential debate broadcast live to tens of millions of Americans, this political novice must hold his own in a face-to-face confrontation with Dan Quayle and Al Gore.

Mr Stockdale's colleagues at Stanford University's Hoover Institution, worried that he will be torn to shreds, are helping him to prepare. "Normally we talk about concepts like obligation and virtue, the relationship of man to providence and man to the state," John Buzzel, a specialist in American politics, said. Not once had they discussed such prosaic matters as "the environment, the homeless, the

gender gap". Mr Stockdale's candidature is an accident. Mr Perot made him his "interim" running mate last March simply to fulfil the requirements for getting on some states' ballots. When the Texas billionaire withdrew from the race in July, he still had not chosen his real running mate, and by the time he re-entered last week it was too late.

Mr Stockdale brings no political experience to the ticket, but exudes courage and has a biography that is the envy of every other candidate. As a navy combat pilot, he led the first American bombing raid on North Vietnam on August



Stockdale: called to Perot's colours

5, 1964. The next year his A-4 jet was shot down, and he parachuted into a North Vietnamese coastal village where "the town roughnecks" beat him and broke his left knee. It still does not bend. He spent the next seven years in Hanoi's infamous Hoa Lo, or "Fleury Burnace", prison camp, four in solitary confinement and two in leg irons.

As the highest-ranking American prisoner in North Vietnam, he imposed strict order on his fellow captives, later seeking mutiny charges against two of them for aiding the enemy. He was tortured, but deliberately inflicted pain on himself to convince his interrogators that torturing him was futile.

"The central problem in prison was to build a civilisation in which life made sense," Mr Stockdale said. "There was a whole discipline built to deal with such circumstances, and that was Stoicism." On his release he was awarded the Medal of Honor.

His wife, Sybil, had met Mr Perot in the late 1960s when they were both campaigning for the release of American prisoners of war in Vietnam, and the two men have been friends "ever since I got off the plane from Hanoi in 1973".

New Age fans battle with sceptics in Tacoma court

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN TACOMA, WASHINGTON STATE

Every morning a strange group assembles outside the county courthouse in Tacoma, Washington. Mostly they are middle-aged women in pastel tracksuits. A few are young and earnest, some sport religious bracelets and carry New Age religious texts; but they all wear the determined expression of the utterly convinced. These are "Ramsters", devotees of America's most famous New Age "channeler", J. Z. Knight, or, more precisely, of the spirit she claims to "channel" — a 35,000-year-old warrior she calls Ramtha.

For the past four weeks the Tacoma courthouse has been the scene of an intense battle between Ms Knight and her supporters on one side and her former husband and her lawyers on the other. More broadly, the case has pitched proponents of New Age religion against critics and sceptics.

Jeffrey Knight is suing his former wife, claiming that she used mind-control techniques (namely his belief in Ramtha's teachings, which

he now rejects as fraudulent) to force him to take just \$120,000 (£70,000) as a divorce settlement in 1988. This was only a tiny fraction of the millions of dollars the couple amassed in the 1980s by marketing Ramtha paraphernalia and charging devotees up to \$1,000 each to hear Ramtha's voice emerging from Ms Knight's mouth.

Mr Knight now claims he deserves a far larger share of the proceeds. He also says he has the Aids virus but failed to seek medical help when he first found out about it because Ramtha told him not to.

Ms Knight's followers (who in the past have included such celebrities as Linda Evans, star of *Dynasty*, and Shirley MacLaine) say she is being persecuted because, in the words of her attorney, her beliefs are not "mainstream, middle-American Christianity".

That view is echoed by many of Ms Knight's past-suit defendants, who cluster around her as she strides into court, her blonde mane

streaming behind her. "Everything that woman says is the gospel truth," one of her attendants confided. "Ramtha is not going to manifest himself just to please a court."

But that is precisely what many of the spectators who daily crowd into Court 211 are hoping for. For the past decade, Ms Knight has apparently been able to summon at will the spirit of Ramtha (a Cro-Magnon fugitive from Atlantis, she says, and part of a pantheon of benign spirits) who first spoke through her in her kitchen in 1977. She was at that time the wife of a dentist living in a suburb of Tacoma.

But, although she has in the past sent out brochures to the faithful advertising forthcoming manifestations of Ramtha, Ms Knight maintains she has no control over when or where he will appear and so far she has resolutely refused to put him on the witness stand.

The case is expected to continue for some weeks.

TIME
INTERNATIONAL

THE WORLD'S NEWSMAGAZINE

EX 1120150

First steps to peace in southern Africa

Angola ballot puts Savimbi on guard

FROM SAM KILEY IN LUANDA

PRESIDENT dos Santos of Angola looked set yesterday to win the country's first election amid mounting fears that his rival, Jonas Savimbi, could refuse to accept defeat and resume the civil war at the head of his guerrilla army.

On Saturday, Dr Savimbi accused the government of electoral fraud and intimidation, as Mr dos Santos and the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) took 53 per cent of the vote against 36 per cent for the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita). Dr Savimbi called on his supporters to remain calm

during the count and said armed cadres were on guard all over the country.

Throughout the election campaign Dr Savimbi had struck an aggressive note, and suggested that if Unita lost, the elections would have been unfair. Observers have regarded Dr Savimbi's reaction to losing as fundamental to the future of the country which emerged from civil war last May after 16 years that destroyed all basic services outside the capital, Luanda. However, his statements over the weekend became more conciliatory in tone as Unita representatives took their com-

plaints to the national electoral council, which is expected to publish the final result of the elections today.

One Western ambassador cautioned against predictions of an outbreak of war after a defeat for Dr Savimbi. "We are all doing a nannying job on both Unita and the government and have cautioned against provocation. Recently we have put a little more pressure on Unita. The reaction of Savimbi to a defeat has always been critical; there is a possibility of a lurch into violence but not war. There are lots of people on both sides who say they should not do it. One thing is certain: the Angolans are sick of war and have voted for peace."

"Even in the south of the country where Unita is strong, I believe there has been an acceptance of the democratic process and an understanding that if they lose this time, they will have another crack in the next election. Both the government and Unita have underestimated the Angolans who have very acute political antennae," he said.

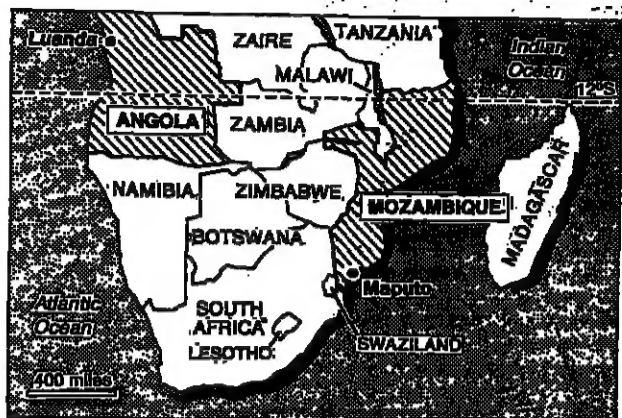
Dr Savimbi was expected last night to close the gap with Mr dos Santos as results came in from Bie, Huambo, and other provinces where support for him is strong, but he is most unlikely to pass the incumbent. In some areas, such as Moxico, where he was expected to do well, the MPLA has won.

Many observers put his relatively poor showing in rural areas down to the indiscriminate laying of mines during the civil war, which drove farmers off the land into the cities, where the MPLA was able to control the media. International observers were struck by the scrupulous fairness of polling and the remarkable turnout of at least 85 per cent. The count has been hampered by logistical problems and slowed by the fact that each vote is counted and checked several times.

Onofre dos Santos, the chairman of the electoral council, said that although Unita had presented him with a long list of complaints, the party had not produced any figures to substantiate their allegations of fraud. "Still, we will investigate, but it will take some time," he said. It is difficult for Unita to deal with this situation [electoral defeat]: it is not a party like any other. It was a disciplined, military organisation," he added.



Savimbi asked cadres to remain calm



Mozambique sides end 16-year war

BY JAN RAATH IN MAPUTO AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

PRESIDENT Chissano of Mozambique and the rebel leader, Afonso Dhlakama, signed a peace treaty yesterday to end the 16-year civil war that has devastated the country and left more than a million people dead.

"Now begins a new era," Mr Chissano said during a ceremony at the Italian foreign ministry in Rome. "This moment gives the Mozambican people the most precious and noble gift of peace."

Mr Chissano and Mr Dhlakama embraced after signing the seven-part agreement in the presence of President Mugabe of Zimbabwe and R.F. "Fili" Botha, the South African foreign minister, among others. "Well done Joaquim, well done Afonso," Mr Mugabe said.

Emilio Colombo, the Italian foreign minister, added: "Peace has won." A ceasefire will take effect as soon as the treaty is ratified by the Mozambique parliament, probably later this week.

It will mark the theoretical end of southern Africa's last big conflict which began shortly after independence from Portugal in 1975. Millions have been forced to flee their homes by the fighting between government troops and Mr Dhlakama's Renamo (Mozambique National Resistance Movement). Countless other people have died of hunger.

"There is no fully appropriate term in the English language to describe the prolonged state of destitution, misery and struggle to survive," Africa Watch, the hu-

man rights organisation, said in a report on Mozambique issued last month.

But the country's most strenuous test will run from today until the end of the 30-day period, before the ceasefire comes into effect. Mozambique is beset by obstacles that cannot wait for resolution in a month's time. Last week, all foreigners, apart from Red Cross officials, were evacuated from the towns of Namupula and Chimio. Mozambique's 15 million people are in an appalling condition. The World Bank says they are the poorest with the lowest per capita gross national product in the world, while the United States Agency for International Development has them as the world's hungriest, with a daily intake of only 1,605 calories.

In the government-controlled areas of the countryside, devastated by drought, food reaches people occasionally by cumbersome military convoy, while those in Renamo-held territory have nothing, even the traditional emergency reserves of wild berries, roots and grasses having run out.

● **Kinshasa:** Troops loyal to President Mobutu have deployed around Zaire's central bank with tanks in a new trial of strength between the president and prime minister, witnesses said yesterday. The soldiers moved in after Etienne Tshisekedi, the prime minister, dismissed Nyembwa Shabani, the central bank governor. (Reuters)

Leading article, page 13



Day of mourning: Ray Walters and his wife Jill, from Maesteg, Mid Glamorgan, with their son John, mourn the deaths of their daughter Joanne and her friend Caroline Clarke, of Farnham, Surrey, at a service in Bowral, 80 miles from Sydney, Australia, yesterday on the spot where the

women, both 22, were found murdered two weeks ago. Joanne, a former nanny and Caroline, a Pizza Hut assistant manager, disappeared in April after leaving Sydney to hitch-hike to Melbourne to go fruit-picking. They had arrived in Australia separately last year on working holidays and began travel-

ling together after meeting in Tasmania. They withdrew cash from a bank on April 17 after leaving their hotel, and nothing was heard of them until the police discovered their bodies in a shallow grave. The police are hunting a man seen camping with two women near where their bodies were found.

Minority to vote in Kuwait

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER

ONLY one in seven of the indigenous population of Kuwait votes today to elect a 50-seat parliament in a country which has changed dramatically since being invaded by Iraq just over two years ago.

The \$60 billion (£35 million) cost of the war is threatening to turn Kuwait Inc, as many cynics refer to the Gulf emirate run by the al-Sabah family, into a net borrower next year for the first time. The state still faces bellicose claims that it is the 19th province of Iraq, affecting the confidence of its citizens.

"We have development plans only on paper. After 45 years of reaping oil revenues, all that we have is disfigured development that is more consumer than production oriented," Abdullah al-Nibari, a candidate for the opposition Democratic Forum, said. Since the invasion the size of the population has halved to 1.2 million with about 400,000 Palestinians driven out as suspected collaborators of President Saddam Hussein. Whatever the result, due to be declared at noon tomorrow, the new parliament will face demands for an extension of the franchise to women, a lowering of the voting age from 21 to 18 and the granting of votes to a much wider cross-section of Kuwaiti males.

Iran's submarine purchase tilts Gulf power balance

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN KUWAIT CITY

THE imminent arrival in the Gulf of the first of three Iranian submarines, the first to operate in the waterway, will pose serious problems for Western naval ships now patrolling there.

The dangers were signalled to home governments after senior British, American, French and Australian naval commanders met their Gulf Arab counterparts in Dubai in last month. The US Senate has now voted to cut off all but humanitarian aid to Moscow if its arms sales to Iran continue.

Despite Washington's strong opposition, Moscow has confirmed that the \$375 million sale will go ahead. The diesel-powered vessels threaten a shift in the balance of naval power that the pro-Western Arab navies are not yet equipped to handle.

The first submarine sailed from Latvia last week and is being tracked by the West and is expected in the Gulf within the next three weeks. No date has been given for delivery of the others, identically armed with 18 torpedoes and the capacity for laying up to 24 mines each with 1,000lb of explosives.

Their purchase, just when Iran is trying to become the regional superpower in response to Iraq's weakness, is seen as a move to control the entrance to the Gulf, conduit



ment that can be used with helicopters carrying homing torpedoes, is briefing the West's Arab allies about ways to counter the Iranian threat. That will involve the purchase of costly anti-submarine warfare equipment never needed before.

"The Royal Navy has made a commitment to share our experience in anti-submarine warfare with members of the Gulf Co-operation Council (led by Saudi Arabia) and to discuss with them what options are now open in light of this new situation," Captain Hogg said.

American aircraft and the 24 ships ships belonging to the American Gulf battle fleet have also been placed on alert to monitor the arrival of the first submarine which will carry a mixed Russian and Iranian crew of 45.

The arrival of the first Kilo-class submarine, a modern boat well suited to operations in enclosed water, comes when tension in the Gulf is at its highest since last year's war because of Iran's territorial ambitions and expensive arms purchases running at more than £1 billion a year.

Iran's virtual annexation of the strategic island of Abu Musa, previously shared with the United Arab Emirates, has led to fears among commanders that the island will become a submarine base.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Attack on Emperor Akihito foiled

Tokyo: An elderly, quick-witted official saved Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko of Japan from an attempted attack by a Japanese man at the opening ceremony of an athletics meeting in Yamagata prefecture, 250 miles north of Tokyo, at the weekend (Joanna Pitman writes).

During the emperor's opening speech, a middle-aged man in a dark suit leapt on to the running track and lobbed a smoke bomb towards the royal box. The capacity crowd of 60,000 watched as the official, clad all in white, tackled the man and wrestled him to the ground. The assailant who was immediately arrested was being questioned by police last night.

Radical groups have been protesting the government's controversial decision to accept Peking's invitation for Emperor Akihito to visit China, an invitation which has been turned down every year for the past five years. The groups believe that the emperor might be forced to apologise for Japan's wartime record in China.

Youths riot

Noakchott: The Mauritanian authorities imposed a curfew after riots started when youths took to the streets of the capital in protest against sharp price rises and a sudden fall in the value of the ouguiya, the local currency. (Reuters)

Soldier killed

Ankara: An American soldier was killed accidentally when the rotor blades of a helicopter from the USS *Iwo Jima*, an amphibious assault ship, struck him as he tried to direct it during Nato war games in the Aegean Sea. (Reuters)

Mission fails

Jerusalem: Roland Dumas, the French foreign minister, failed in a mission to the Middle East. M. Dumas, who visited Syria, Egypt and Israel, had hoped to mediate a meeting between President Assad of Syria and Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli prime minister.

Labor loses

Melbourne: Australia's ruling Labor party was swept from power in elections in Victoria. With four-fifths of the state's votes counted, Labor's support had slumped to 43.8 per cent; its conservative opponents had 56.2 per cent. (AFP)

Deaths studied

Managua: A commission formed by the government, the Roman Catholic Church and the Organisation of American States will investigate recent violent deaths of former combatants. Officials say hundreds of murders remain unsolved. (AP)

Cash prize

Knoxville: George Jewett, a friend of the author, bought the Pulitzer Prize that Alex Haley won for *Roots* for \$50,000 (£29,000) at an auction held to pay off \$1.5 million in debts left by Haley at his death in February. (AP)

UK warns Guyana on election

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

BRITAIN has warned Guyana not to rig the elections today and has expressed concern at restrictions placed on foreign diplomatic observers.

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, wrote last week to Desmond Hoyte, the Guyanese prime minister, expressing Britain's unhappiness at the government's decision to allow only accredited ambassadors in Georgetown to be present at polling stations to monitor the vote.

The Foreign Office said that the restriction, announced ten days ago, would make it impossible to ensure that the elections were free and fair. It violated Guyana's undertaking last year to allow proper monitoring of the vote. It also flouted the resolution at last year's Commonwealth conference to allow independent observers to monitor elections in countries where questions might be raised about their fairness.

The election could see the return to power of Dr Cheddi Jagan, who last held power for seven years until 1964. Each of the five general elections since then has resulted in victory for the People's National Congress.

Saint from slums poised to win Rio poll

Rhythmic samba tunes thrived from a Rio de Janeiro favela (slum) as thousands of its inhabitants headed for polling booths to select their new mayor during municipal elections in Brazil over the weekend. The sound of drums and singing filled the narrow, muddy paths of the shanty town.

They carried red banners and leaflets and held up pictures of their favoured candidate, a fellow slum dweller called Benedita da Silva, a descendant from African slaves. She has captured the votes of most of the 2.7 million slum dwellers who live in makeshift homes that are precariously perched on the hills that make up the city of Rio.

"She has campaigned to change things for Rio's slum dwellers. But she is also the favourite for mayor in Rio as a whole, and we are happy that finally someone will win who will represent our needs," said Silva, one of dozens of youths handing out leaflets promoting Senhora da Silva on the streets surrounding the slum, which lies just behind the row of luxury hotels on Copacabana and Leme beaches.

Recent polls published in the local newspapers put Senhora da Silva well ahead

Brazil voters have had enough of corrupt politicians after the impeachment of Collor, Gabriella Gamini writes

with 26 per cent of the vote. Results are not due to be released until early this week. Although she has won many votes by promising much needed social services and employment opportunities to Rio's poor, she has also captured the vote of the intellectual middle-class.

Her party has led the campaign to force the impeachment of President Collor de Mello, who awaits a trial in the senate and is accused of being involved in a multi-million corruption scandal masterminded by his former campaign treasurer.

A political analyst said: "She belongs to the PT (Labour party), a left-wing opposition group, which was very vociferous in calling for the impeachment, a call which millions of Brazilians echoed in demonstrations. 'This will add extra votes for mayors in municipal elections, because it is in everybody's mind,' he added. PT is also the party of Luis Inacio Lula da Silva, Senhor Collor's closest rival in the 1989

presidential elections. "Senhor Collor represented conservative thought. But he failed miserably to keep his anti-corruption promises, so his crisis will lead to increased support for left-wing parties," said another local analyst.

Senhora da Silva's promises and those of other candidates, who follow her in the polls, have raised the hopes of voters who believe the impeachment of Senhor Collor will stamp out corruption from government and make politicians concentrate on working for a better future for Brazilians, who suffer from high inflation rates and regular economic crises.

"Benedita is someone we compare with a character of a story in which good fights evil. We are going to demand that more from politicians now," said one of thousands of *Cariocas*, as Rio's inhabitants are called, who filled the streets of the city on Saturday and queued to vote in schools and banks.

Voting was taken seriously, all shops were shut and no

drinking was allowed. Not all *Cariocas* are Benedita supporters. Some fear her focus on helping street children and families, forced to live in cardboard shacks set up in parks and along roadsides, will increase the high level of crime.

"She is just concentrating on helping those who steal in the streets and make Rio dangerous," said Luis Debonville, a taxi-driver. But he is in a minority. Most blame the high rates of crime on the so far total disregard for social services and education.

In Rio's largest favela, Rosinha, where more than 400,000 people live in brick and corrugated iron shacks, dwellers scrape together a living with occasional jobs and begging. Others make it by trafficking cocaine and some may turn to crime.

But whoever becomes Rio's mayor will face stronger demands to fulfil on promises. "We had become so used to corrupt politicians. But the impeachment trial has raised hopes for change," Ricardo Azury, a local journalist, said. "People are going to want more because they saw that their protests managed to topple the government of Collor. So *Cariocas* are demanding a change."

Death toll reaches 111 as Brazil troops put down jail uprising

FROM STAN LEHMAN OF ASSOCIATED PRESS IN SAO PAULO

A GANG fight and riot in Latin America's largest prison, Carandiru, in Brazil, left 111 inmates dead and injured 34 riot troops sent to put down the uprising at the overcrowded jail.

Inmates sought with homemade knives, pipes and pistols they seized from guards they had overwhelmed in battles on Friday, Pedro Franco de Campos, the São Paulo state security director, said that the uprising quickly spread as inmates burnt mattresses, beds and blankets in one building.

Most of the prisoners seemed to have died at the hands of other inmates, although one policeman said the 300 riot troops sent in were allowed to shoot in self-defence. "It was not a police massacre," Senhor de Campos said. "Most of the deaths were caused by the inmates themselves."

Distressed families, some crying and shouting, scuffled with the police and tried to get inside the prison in São Paulo's northern working-class district.

Luis Antonio Fleury, the state governor, said: "I lament the deaths at the prison. What we now have to verify is if the police action was called for."

The prison, which holds

7,500 inmates but is built to hold 4,000, has long been criticized by human rights groups. The fight at the prison's Pavilion 9 began on Friday afternoon when one inmate hit another over the head with a lead pipe in a dispute over cocaine. Other prisoners who had planned a mass escape became furious with the two for drawing

attention to their area of the prison and started a mass brawl in an outdoor recreation area. The incident could pose yet another problem for Itamar Franco, Brazil's new acting president. He was sworn in on Friday to take the place of President Collor de Mello, who faces an impeachment trial over an influence-peddling scandal.



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Tory bandages torn apart

The Thatcher era still haunts the cabinet, writes Peter Riddell

John Major has always lacked that political quality which Winston Churchill vividly attributed to Joseph Chamberlain, an ability to "make the weather". Mr Major has looked a transitional figure, the ideal politician to heal the wounds of the end of the Thatcher era rather than to set a new agenda. He was chosen in November 1990 as the most suitable candidate to unite the Tory party, to deal with the poll tax and Europe, and to prevent an election defeat. He succeeded beyond all expectations. April 9 was his victory. He was his own man at last, with his own mandate.

While it is absurd to talk about Majorism as a doctrine, Mr Major has developed a distinctive approach, managerial perhaps, rather than crusading, but none the worse for that. As Sir Norman Fowler says in his interview with *The Times* today, one of the central pillars of Tory strategy is the modernisation of public services. That might have dominated the Brighton conference in happier times; there is plenty to be done in that area to occupy any government. The snag is that public services reform is not enough when the other pillars, membership of the exchange rate mechanism and being at the heart of Europe, have either collapsed or been severely shaken.

Mr Major has discovered over the past three weeks that he has not escaped the shadow of his predecessor. Party battles over Europe and the economy have restarted as after a lull in the fighting during the hundred-years war. Perversely, the fiercest skirmishes have been among the ermined veterans reliving their old struggles, in which Lord Lawson has so far had the edge. But they are has-beens, and the predictions of Baroness Thatcher returning to power ridiculous fantasies. If she did become the first prime minister sitting in the House of Lords since Lord Salisbury 90 years ago, she would presumably, like him, have to find her cabinet from the upper house.

By contrast, the present cabinet is less divided than some of the more lurid headlines suggest. That is partly because of Mr Major's consensual style. He likes to discuss, consider and weigh the options before acting. At last Thursday's political cabinet, as the section on party matters is known, he went round the table seeking everybody's opinion. This is unlike his predecessor, who said he wanted a discussion and then laid down the law. Mr Major ensures that all go along with the final decision.

In practice, Mr Major had no choice but to do what he did last Thursday and press ahead with the Maastricht bill. Not only is that the view of a clear majority of the cabinet, but there is no alternative strategy which would leave Britain with influence over the develop-

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

ment of the EC in a free-market direction, and towards enlargement. Euro-scepticism is a blind alley for the Tories, just as opposition to repeal of the Corn Laws was in the middle of the last century and tariff reform was earlier this century. Sir Teddy Taylor and William Cash are implausible heirs to Disraeli.

Mr Major's economic pillar is still lying in ruins. After some initial, fanciful talk about withdrawal being a cause for celebration, the awkward realities of a floating-rate regime are now being faced. Not only inflation but also interest rates may be higher in a year to 18 months' time than if we had stayed in the ERM. September 16 was a severe defeat, and unlike

'Mr Major has discovered over the past three weeks that he has not escaped the shadow of his predecessor'

with the Maastricht bill, Mr Major has not yet begun to regain the initiative over economic policy. It is increasingly doubtful whether he can do so while Mr Lamont remains Chancellor. While his decisions reflected cabinet policy, Mr Lamont has lost too much credibility with the markets. But whoever is in charge, the government needs a new policy in place quickly. That means not only a tough fiscal and

monetary stance but also firmer commitments about re-entering the ERM. Trying to win the acquiescence of the Euro-sceptics for Maastricht by procrastinating over the ERM may preserve party unity but it may not convince the financial world.

The ERM and Maastricht are not the only signs that British politics has not yet adjusted to the end of the Thatcher era, that we are still in a transitional phase. For instance, the other side of government plans to modernise public services are questions about how large a public sector we want and how we intend to pay for it. The Tories tried to have it both ways in the election campaign and played the tax card to win a fourth term. The resulting contradictions are now being resolved in a tight squeeze on many public spending programmes. Like Bill Clinton in America, Labour is now talking about active government but is also trying to have it both ways by not discussing the tax implications. John Smith is also in part a transitional figure.

The answer to the question of where the Major transition leads may still, of course, be in his hands. If he can secure approval of the Maastricht bill, which he probably can, and if he can put in place a plausible economic strategy, which is less certain, then he may be able to rebuild his shaken political position. But he has to "make the weather" if he wants to look a convincing long-term leader.

Howard Davies, director-general of the CBI, sets an economic agenda for the government

What industry needs

Two weeks have passed since whirling Wednesday, and we are none the wiser about the future direction of the government's financial policy. The Chancellor has feigned one way with his reference to a British policy constructed in British interests, then the other with an attempt to renegotiate, in some unspecified way, the basis of the exchange-rate mechanism. Neither of these projected courses seems likely to lead to a sustainable new framework for decision-making.

Though some take pleasure in the prospect of a Chancellor, and a Treasury, twisting in the wind, I do not. Indeed it would be inappropriate for the Confederation of British Industry to do so, since we supported ERM entry and the government's attempts to sustain the parity. It would be honest to acknowledge, therefore, that many people are left almost as uncomfortable as the Chancellor for events in the currency markets, as a new way forward is sought.

Industry is united in the view that real interest rates should not return to the high levels of the past year. On the other hand, there is a deep fear of a resurgence of inflation. So it is urgent for the government to re-establish business confidence by setting out a clear way forward, and one designed, over time, to get us back on track towards the prize of European currency stability, which seemed to be in sight.

The starting point must be a firm anti-inflationary commitment. The foundation for that could be the so-called convergence criteria for economic and monetary union, to which the government is already theoretically committed.

In effect the government would accept that fixing the exchange rate, in the hope that it would create convergence, is for the time being

not a realistic option. But if the convergence criteria can be met outside the ERM, an eventual return to the mechanism — or its successor — might well be possible. And the criteria are sensible in their own right.

The first three of the five criteria are that a country's inflation rate should not be more than 1.5 percentage points above the average of the three best performing ERM nations, that the fiscal deficit should not (averaged over the cycle) exceed 3 per cent of GDP, and that the total stock of government debt should be no more than 60 per cent of GDP. So they provide a tough fiscal discipline — which the government now desperately needs — and an inflation target. In addition, long-term interest rates should not be more than two percentage

points above the average of the best inflation performers.

At present, the inflation target is within reach; the key is to keep it there. The public-sector borrowing requirement, on the other hand, is uncomfortably high, at close to 6% of GDP. That is common ground among economists of (almost) all persuasions. So those criteria are pointing now in a plausible policy direction.

The last criterion is that a currency must stay within the narrow ERM band for two years. That will not be possible in the near future. So another method of meeting the inflation objective must be found. Here we are thrown back on a "range of indicators", clearly including targets for the growth of narrow and broad money. But the prognosis for such a

regime, managed by the Treasury and subject of the vagaries of the political process, cannot be good.

So there is a strong case for the proposal for an independent Bank of England, subject to regular parliamentary scrutiny. The Bank's principal objective would be to meet the first of the convergence criteria, the inflation target, using interest rates and market intervention. The government would, of course, be responsible for taxing and spending.

It is difficult to forecast how the European monetary union project will develop in the next few years. Our partners may move quickly to establish a European central bank, or they may not. But the determination to create a zone of currency stability at the heart of Europe seems not to be in doubt.

The government should therefore construct its policy so as not to rule out re-entry to the ERM, or a move to full monetary union in due course, while recognising that neither is realistic at present.

The unmaking of the British

Bernard Levin asks if this country will soon manufacture nothing at all

Our dear sister, *The Sun*, recently devoted an entire page, with not a nippie in sight, to the question "Why isn't it made in Britain any more?" The "it" in the question was explained in considerable detail, comprising no fewer than nine manufactures which had once dominated their particular fields in Britain, but which are now made elsewhere: not were the nine leading products mere gewgaws — on the contrary, they were central to Britain's output, as the list will make instantly clear: ships, aircraft, electrical goods, cars, motorbikes and bicycles, shoes, clothing and toys.

Take shipbuilding, once among the greatest of our products, products that the customers queued up to buy: today Britain, from a mostly silent Clyde, produces 3 per cent of the world's merchant shipping. Only 20 years ago, Britain imported 23 per cent of the cars in this country; the rest were British, and made in Britain. Today we import 55 per cent. Toys? Two-thirds come from the Far East. Shoes? In 1955, 91 per cent of the shoes sold in Britain were made here; now 70 per cent are imported.

And so on. There was a general in the American civil war (I forget his name) who was more or less illiterate but a very successful commander. When asked the secret of his success in battle, he replied, "I gits thar fustest with the mostest men". The question, then, is why don't British manufacturers nowadays gits thar fustest, or indeed gits thar at all?

Let me start at a tangent. As I was about to start this column, I read an item about the BBC. It revealed that Sir Michael Checkland, the BBC's director-general, had ordered a spending cut: BBC Television has to save no less than £20 million over the next six



who cannot speak any intelligible language).

Before I get back on the rails, let us look in on the council chamber in Sheffield: to get the mostest fun, we should pick a time when the councillors, in solemn conclave met, are discussing the budget.

The sum they will be discussing is a matter of £10.4 million which has gone rather spectacularly astray. When the World Student Games (the very words point inexorably towards the bankruptcy courts) were held in Sheffield, the civic fathers had been assured that the event would pay for itself. Unfortunately, the gentlemen who gave that assurance, the Director of Games Administration, seems to have gone on the principles that guided El-sha, only to find to his dismay that the ravers didn't want to know, a feeling, it is safe to say, that the ratepayers of Sheffield must heartily

sponsorship and increasing costs from councillors... members should have seen some danger, signals in the fact that they were unable to obtain from the Director of Games Administration any satisfactory information on the progress being made on sponsorship and merchandising negotiations...

The connection between the survey of Britain's dying industry, and the monumental incompetence demonstrated by the BBC and the Sheffield council finance committee must be obvious. The same creeping "blight-in-time" deathly both: losing millions because nobody thought fit to make sure that the people in charge of the millions were up to their job, and losing whole industries because that was the way it had always been done, with those in charge not noticing or caring that skinny little yellow men on the other side of the world, and overweight big men just across the Rhine, were doing it in a very different way and at half the price.

Unfair! Unfair! Unfair! competition! That, in one form or another, has been the cry of those in Britain who could only make a worse mousetrap. It won't be long before nothing is made in Britain, except excuses. Listen to this: it comes from the disaster of British Aerospace, and the words are those of the chief executive, Richard Evans:

I saw this amorphous mass comprising the different aircraft. You couldn't segregate the strands of it. What I did, however, was that there was a bloody great, happy, sprawling going on, but I couldn't see where it was. There was no financial reporting system at all.

Very well, why was there no financial reporting system at all? And why couldn't he find out where the haemorrhaging was going on? And why couldn't he segregate the strands? Damnation take it, he was the boss. Whose axe hadn't been kicked? And who picked the man with the deficiently kicked axe, and who has belatedly kicked his, even supposing that it had been kicked in the first place?

No doubt there are people in Britain who think that we can do without making anything at all. But when the sky is dark from chickens coming home to roost, the only manufacturing enterprise remaining in Britain will be the output of broiler-fowl cages for the very chickens in question. *Quis kickidit ipsos arse?*

months. Another cutback sum, £50 million this time, is to some extent disputed by the BBC. But neither of these gigantic holes in the budget had anything to do with, say, the buying of enormous quantities of dud material from America, or forking out on a massive drama-series, or coverage of the general

election. No: the director-general was up the spout for 20 million snackers because he has "to rectify a projected deficit caused by accounting errors", and anything up to 50 million of the same said snackers because of "flaws in the financial allocation process" (do not buy Brooklyn Bridge from a man

reciprocate. As to exactly what happened, mere quotation from the auditor's report suffices: it is said of the man in charge that he "misled councillors... was guilty of serious shortcomings... made significant mistakes... judgment was on occasions seriously at fault... keeping details of the lack of



...and moreover MATTHEW PARRIS

Nobody likes a serial story that is dropped after the first couple of instalments. Over the summer, the column brought you news of the arrival of a swarm of bees above my office door. In a later column I recounted the tale of the kind professor who gave me a beehive. I left you (as, indeed, I left my bees) en route to Seville, with the swarm safely housed in my new hive and autumn closing in. An uncertain future in beekeeping lay ahead of me.

So, before we close the book on the bee story, how goes it with the bees? Let me tell you. In summary, they emerged from a very rough fortnight to reveal themselves as Beugats. The message from my hive this autumn is: shut Maastricht!

My week in Seville, and their first in the new hive, was ill-chosen, for in England early August was wet and stormy. The bees were already exhausted from quiting their first hive, aborting their first swarm, and moving into empty and unprovisioned quarters. The fields were cold and the flowers were few and far between. Bees can be artificially fed, but I was headed for Spain.

I did try to leave them food but made a terrible mistake. My book said they like a syrup made with water and sugar. I had a pound of Demerara sugar in the cupboard and thought (brown sugar being more "natural" than white) that this would be a treat for them. The syrup was left (as

the book advised) in raised, upturned jam jars with small holes pricked in their lids.

The bees wouldn't touch it. They drank not a drop. They preferred to starve. A few thousand of them did. I was greeted on return from Spain by the ghastly sight of thousands of little corpses outside their front door. In despair, I rang the author, academic and beekeeper John Carey for advice.

"They only like white sugar," he said. "Mix your syrup from that. And make sure it's Tate & Lyle, who use cane from the West Indies. The British Sugar Corporation's Silver Spoon is made from European beet. Bees don't like it."

I went off in search of Tate & Lyle sugar. There's something funny going on in the sugar business — the monopolies commission should look into it — because Tate & Lyle is getting harder and harder to find. Like the grey squirrel, *Silver Spoon* is driving its rival out of Britain. Those familiar with the common agricultural policy will know that the beet regime is a costly and sinister Brussels plan to wipe out our Commonwealth producers and cover France and Lincolnshire in horrible beet, planted for exportant subsidy.

My mother told me that bees are extraordinarily knowledgeable, but I could not believe that they knew about this, nor that they could taste the difference. I sampled teaspoons of each with my eyes shut and could not distinguish. So, to test John

Carey's thesis and discover whether English bees are indeed anti-Maastricht, I mixed two portions of syrup, one from Tate & Lyle and one from Silver Spoon, using identical methods and placing them in identical jars. These two offerings were left, like sacrifices before a deity, outside the hive.

I returned 24 hours later. The British Commonwealth jar had been completely emptied, the European jar was still half full. Dozens of bees scrambled in vain for traces of Tate & Lyle syrup, but, though there was plenty of *Silver Spoon* syrup left, only a handful of bees buzzed around that jar, looking bored and fed up.

Since then I've scoured Derbyshire for cane sugar. Finding some at the grocery in Winstler, I bought ten kilos in September, for the bees were building up their strength before calling it a day for the winter. This they have now done.

And our column, too, must quit the insect scene and call it a day. This is the end of the bee story. Winter approaches. The box at the bottom of my garden is a hive of inactivity. My bees are bedding down for the torpor of what, to a bee, is an ice age, from which some will never awake. Their little lives are rounded with a sleep. The cloud-capped flowers, the gorgeous crocuses, are melted into air. Into thin air, and — like the waxy fabric of their brood-comb — shall dissolve, and leave not a rack behind.

Our revels, now, are ended.

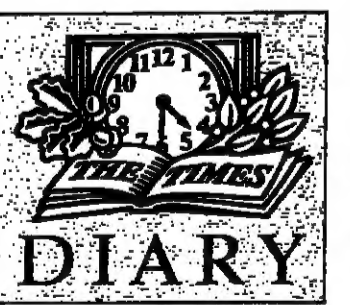
Standing up for Delors

AS THE British presidency of the EC stumbles towards the Edinburgh summit, the city's university has decided to confer an honorary doctorate on Jacques Delors to mark his "contribution to European unity". The ceremony will take place the day before the summit opens in December and will be a red rag to Maastricht critics, who may be in the middle of opposing the bill on the floor of the Commons at the time.

Their anger will be enhanced if the honour to Delors also draws the royal family into the Maastricht row. The chancellor of Edinburgh University, who would normally be expected to preside at such a



ceremony, is Prince Philip. No final decision has been taken, but the university admits that it is unlikely that the Duke of Edinburgh, who recently conferred an equally controversial degree on Jacques Derrida at Cambridge, will be present. Rumour has long suggested that he is not brimming with Euro-fervour. "We don't want



to be run by bureaucrats," he recently told a private gathering of MPs and academics with some feeling.

The ceremony will probably be conducted by Sir David Smith, the principal and vice-chancellor, and an unashamed fan of Delors. Edinburgh University is one of the leading centres of academic support for European unity. The university has a Europa Institute and has in the past honoured Chancellor Kohl and Madame Mitterrand with honorary doctorates.

"Delors is a very distinguished person who has contributed a great deal to Europe," says Smith. "I have not received any adverse reaction. Who could possibly find the award controversial?" Smith is about to find out. William Cash, one of the leading Euro-sceptics on the Tory benches, said: "This is ridiculous. You would have thought in Edinburgh they would have remembered Rizzio. Long live Mary Queen of Scots." Just what could he mean?

Meanwhile, Euro-sceptics who are furious that the Tory conference agenda in Brighton does not allow them a vote on Maastricht are planning to force an impromptu ballot of their own. If the powers that be in a rare moment of balance allow an opponent of the government line to the rostrum,

expect a demand that anyone in the hall who favours pressing ahead with the Maastricht bill should immediately raise their hand. The triumphant sceptic will then turn round to the platform and demand that the leadership listens to the voice of the party as just expressed. It could be the most seaside far since Edwina shook those handcuffs.

Passing the book

IAN MCEWAN'S chances of winning next week's Booker prize have not been helped by a piece of particularly maladroit PR by his publisher Jonathan Cape.

Maggie van Reenan, head of corporate affairs at Booker, decided it would be fun to send each one of the 400 guests at Guildhall in London a copy of one of the novels before the big night. The idea was to foster partisanship and debate on each table at the award dinner. Virago (Michael Ondaatje), Picador (Patrick McCabe) and Hamish Hamilton (Barry Unsworth) all agreed to supply the books. Only the publisher of MCEWAN'S *Black Dogs* objected.

"Booker are rich, we're not. Let them buy them," said David Goodwin of Jonathan Cape. Strange behaviour given that Cape has won more Booker prizes — and as a result sold more books — than any other publisher. Despite this, MCEWAN remains the bookie's favourite at 6-4.

Whatever happened to student impecuniosity? Scholars attending the London School of Journalism in Notting Hill Gate have been mesmerised by the jet-set lifestyle of one of their fellows. John Karatzafaris, the 19-year-old son of the Greek media tycoon George Karatzafaris, has taken to commu-

ing from Athens to London fortnightly for his tutorials, flying back to present a sports programme for his father's television station, Telety three nights a week.

Minimalist art

THE ARTS Council faces a fearful conundrum. All of the keynote speakers for its conference later this month have either resigned or appear unwilling to commit themselves to the event. First they lost David Mellor, who had accepted an invitation to debate the future of broadcasting and the arts in the Nineties. Then Bryan Gould, who was keen to air his views on the same subject, relinquished his interest. Now Jack Lang, France's urbane culture minister, who was to add a European perspective to the debate, is unable to confirm he will be there. "No final decision has been taken," says his office in Paris.

Neither can the new heritage secretary, Peter Brooke, be expected to replace Mellor. He is uncertain whether he can master his new brief in time. Gould, of course, does not even have a replacement until Labour can organise a vote to find his successor. "The conference will go ahead even if none of them arrives on the day," says an Arts Council spokesman. "We still have the likes of Melvyn Bragg."

While staff at the Inland Revenue building in Bootle, Merseyside, may cause the occasional groan and depression outside their own 19-storey walls, that is nothing compared with the headaches suffered by tax inspectors inside the building. The office is suffering from sick building syndrome and requires £40 million of our money to make the place fit to work in. Headaches, sore throats and sinus troubles are among the problems reported. It couldn't happen to a nicer bunch of people.



THE REAL OPPOSITION

An unexpected seachange in British politics will be witnessed at the Tory party conference in Brighton this week. Labour used to be the party that paraded its differences in public: the Tories sorted theirs out in smoke-filled rooms. But no longer. The last truly electric moment on the Labour conference floor was the walk-out by the late, lamented Eric Heffer in the 1985 conference in protest at Neil Kinnock's attack on Liverpool Militants. It was also, incidentally, the last time the leader delivered an extempore speech. Thereafter the Labour conference was decreed to be safe, sanitised and packaged into sound-bites. Last week's show of respectability at Blackpool marked the completion of this dull revolution.

The Tories, meanwhile, have discovered a taste for blood. They are the vampires of British politics. Balfour's famous remark that the advice of his valet was of more consequence than that of the Tory conference must seem to Mr Major like an echo of a quieter age. He goes to Brighton in need of the forgiveness of his party. The Tory representatives, battered from a terrible autumn, might be frugal in their mercy.

The current Conservative split on Europe would have persuaded the old style party manager to suppress all hints of dissent. Instead, this great constitutional question will be debated openly, itself a sign of a healthy party. Ministers, under little pressure from the official Opposition in the Commons, will be made to sweat. On the key issues of the EC and the economy, where the government is running scared, a party conference can paradoxically help rather than hinder. The nation's relationship with Brussels is a proper political issue, akin in its significance to the Corn Laws or Tariff Reform, which split the Tories but enabled the party to reform and recover. Strong opposition is vital for good government and if Labour deigns not to supply it, it must perforce come from within the Conservative party. Lord Salisbury once remarked that

Mr Gladstone's existence was the greatest source of strength the Tories possessed. His own views were dependent on opposition. "I rank myself no higher in the scheme of things than a policeman — whose utility would disappear if there were no criminals." The Tory representatives will be treated to the sight of real opposition this week in Brighton: we can even expect a few scalp.

Of course the Tories are second to none in stage-managing the agenda and their formal conference proceedings. In some corners the old not-in-front-of-the-children ethos lives on. The very name "Maastricht" is taboo in the official agenda, but in its heart the party wholeheartedly believes in the power of debate. Whereas Labour suppressed a BBC *Newsnight* debate last week on its relationship with the unions, the Tories are allowing a televised shouting match on Europe to go ahead. In the late 1970s, while Central Office carried on in its own unadventurous way, Lady Thatcher transformed the party by propagating think-tanks, commissioning radical policy documents and encouraging bright young men to say the unsayable.

As a result the Tories are no longer the know-nothing party. The middle-aged ladies who used to bay for blood at the annual hanging debates, and flourished their hat pins at Monday Club meetings, have made way for (often frighteningly) well informed activists with policies that today seem out of the question but may well be taken for granted a decade from now.

This will be a bloody week for the party establishment and the Chancellor and a character-testing display of courage under fire for the Prime Minister. But the Conservative party itself is buzzing with ideas. Anyone interested in Britain in the next millennium will catch the pulse of the radical thought that will shape it on the Brighton seaford. Those who went to Blackpool saw only a carefully marketed version of the past.

HOW CIVIL WARS END

Since independence, Mozambique has known only war, famine, corruption and decay. The agreement in Rome between the government of Joaquim Chissano and the Renamo rebels now offers the exhausted country a hope of peace. Despite last-minute stalling by Alfonso Dhlakama, the rebel leader, both sides have committed themselves to a formal United Nations ceasefire, due to come into effect within two months, thus ending the last big conflict in Southern Africa which, over the past 16 years, has claimed at least a million victims.

Just as one war ends, however, another may be re-starting. Elections in Angola, the other former Portuguese colony reduced to ruin by civil war, have given the ruling MPLA party a decisive victory. Its opponents however seem unlikely to accept the result gracefully, and Jonas Savimbi, the powerful Unita leader, has spoken darkly of men and women ready to give up their lives "so that the country can be free." Both the United Nations, which has supervised the country's transition to democracy, and the United States have challenged him to prove his charges of electoral fraud. If he cannot, he is likely to return to the bush and the cycle of civil war could begin again.

The depressing prospect is underlined by experience elsewhere in Africa. Outside mediators broker truces between despotic governments and insurgents pillaging the country. Agreements are signed, a new era of democracy and human rights is promised and attempts are made to disarm the combatants. But the old mistrust remains, tribal hatreds prevail, and local warlords who have profited from the anarchy seize what they can of the spoils. Ethiopia, southern Sudan and Liberia are but recent examples.

The harsh fact is that whatever the resolutions of the United Nations and high-

principled intermediaries, starvation is the most effective peacemaker. Two years of desultory negotiations in Mozambique appeared to be going nowhere. Its villages emptied, its earth turned to dust by the great drought gripping southern Africa, the country is dying. Both sides have weapons enough to continue their campaigns indefinitely; they do not have the food or the manpower. In such desperation, the harsher demands of sheer survival conquer even the madness of war.

Most civil wars end not in truces but starvation and exhaustion. The Thirty Years war, the American civil war, the fighting in Lebanon and Biafra ended when one side or other could no longer sustain even the means to feed itself, let alone fight. The cold logic forces a primitive and awful conclusion: fighting in Yugoslavia, Afghanistan and Somalia will not stop until death and destruction threaten entire populations.

Efforts to feed starving Somalis and Sudanese are frustrated by gunmen ready to hijack supplies, or open fire on relief planes. Yet, in conscience, these efforts must go on. They must be accompanied by the kind of political pressure that brought together the Mozambique combatants in Rome and is attempting to bring together the Bosnian leaders in Geneva. Diplomatic missions and UN peace-makers must recognise two things however: first, that in the viciousness characterising much of the fighting in Africa and the Balkans, political leaders are often unable to control the warlords; and secondly, the gunmen sniping in the alleyways or Sarajevo or Beirut will only be beaten when General Drought and General Winter have mobilised their legions. Already they are winning in the Horn of Africa and in the south of the continent. The guns may finally fall silent in Mozambique only when its people fall in the parched fields.

A LEVEL TRACK

Horse-racing, "Sport of Kings", is the ancestral hobby of royalty and the rich in this country, a glittering part of national life where fortunes are spent in pursuit of the turf's finest prizes. The first known purse was itself a British achievement, made during the reign of Richard the Lionheart: 40 pounds in gold for a three-mile ride ridden by the king's knights. Thoroughbred events like Royal Ascot and the Queen Mother Champion Chase have preserved the glamour and passion of this sport — which is also the nation's sixth largest employer.

Yet the glories of the British track face a head-on challenge from abroad, a threat epitomised by the charm and elegance of yesterday's Ciga Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe in Paris. Racing overseas is cheap, entrance fees are low and prize money is high. Baden-Baden, Longchamp, Rome and Veliefendi in Turkey could soon replace Newmarket, Goodwood, Ascot and York as the capitals of racing excellence.

The rot has already set in: at Fontwell last Monday, two of racing's more colourful owners withdrew horses from races moments before the "off" in protest at low prize money. In one of the races affected by the boycott, the first prize was a mere £788, hardly enough to cover a month's training fees, and third prize was £86, which does not pay a jump jockey's riding fee.

Three days later at Newmarket, the Maktoum family announced its intention to reduce its 800-strong string of horses in Britain and chase the more substantial prizes which are to be won in France, Germany and the United States. If small owners cannot afford to keep a horse in training and the big battalions transfer their

racing interests abroad, jobs will be lost, revenue to the Exchequer will slip away and this labour-intensive sport will be in peril.

Britain offers meagre rewards to successful owners, then burdens them with the high VAT rates which cover bloodstock and training fees. When the Single Market comes into effect next year, the British tax rate of 17.5 per cent for bloodstock, compared to 2.7 per cent in Ireland and 5.5 per cent in France, will imperil the domestic breeding industry. Clearly, a standardisation of VAT rates is a desirable goal, but not one that can be easily or quickly achieved during such a fractious period in European relations. Level playing fields are hard to come by in money-spinning businesses like racing. So, in the short term, the British bookies have no choice but to make a more generous contribution to the business from which they profit, if they truly wish it to survive.

Prize money overseas is plentiful because much of the profit from betting is returned to the sport. In Britain, racing has to rely on a levy paid by off-course punters. Next year that will provide around £47 million for racing's coffers, compared to the £125 million profit made from betting by Ladbrokes, William Hill and Coral, and governments' £320 million cut.

In a recession it is no good for a blue-blooded sport turning to the government for a bail-out. The bookmakers must find ways of wooing back the owners and that must mean more generous prize money. The magic of British racing is its noisy opulence, its celebration of risk, grandeur and excess. A precious slice of the nation's heritage is at risk and it is time for the blinkers to come off.

Europe as key to party divide

From Lord Cobbold

Sir, These days there is little difference between the three political parties on policy questions. All believe in a reasonably free market. The interests of labour and capital are no longer seen to be implacably opposed. The only fundamental issue on which there is a polarisation of views is Europe, but on this subject differences of opinion cut across party lines.

If labour versus capital has dominated European political debate over the past century, the key issue as we approach 2000 is how the high-cost economies of Europe are going to compete with the low-cost economies of Asia, particularly if we have to find extra cash to bail out the bankrupt legacy of communism on our eastern borders.

Are the Western European nations going to do it best by pooling their resources or acting alone? The political divide of the future is between Europeans and nationalists.

The obvious solution to the Maastricht problem is for the prime minister to put the treaty to the House of Commons as a free vote, tending his resignation at the same time. Those voting for and those against would then reconstitute themselves as new political parties. The winning side would elect a leader and form the new government.

The lobbying of members of Parliament in the run-up to the vote would give ample opportunity for public expression, obviating the need for a referendum. The two new parties would preserve the adversarial system beloved of Westminster and the Opposition would have something to oppose.

The new government, whether European or nationalist, could pursue its policies wholeheartedly and constructively without the "froth and bubble" and "half-hearted commitments" condemned in your leading article (October 1).

May I commend this proposal for debate at the forthcoming Tory party conference?

Yours faithfully,
LORD COBOLD,
House of Lords,
October 4.

Hospitals' future

From Professor Donald Longmore

Sir, Leaks about the Tomlinson enquiry into the future of the capital's health services (report, September 11; letters, September 22, 28) do not portend a bold and imaginative plan to carry medicine forward to prevention of the commonest diseases, rather a pruning exercise merely to reduce the facilities in the capital.

Nearly half of those who read this will die of cancer, yet it appears that the recommendations include amalgamating two of the world's leading institutions dealing with these diseases, abandoning their new buildings and burying them in an inaccessible, unsatisfactory hospital.

The leaks do not suggest links with important scientific universities; there has been no mention of science parks to exploit discoveries to recreate a revenue-earning British medical industry.

Reducing facilities does not necessarily save money or improve the efficiency of what is left (*vide* British Rail) nor have all amalgamations to produce large conglomerates proved successful (*vide* the former British Leyland). To remove the medical centres of excellence will destroy the opportunity of a European centre for the prevention of the commonest diseases. It may hasten the brain drain and eliminate a potential source of precious foreign revenue.

Yours etc.,
DONALD LONGMORE
(Senior Consultant),
Royal Brompton National Heart and Lung Hospitals,
Sydney Street, SW3,
October 2.

Fighter costs

From Mr Christopher Bate-Williams

Sir, The suggestion that the government is to fund and build the European Fighter Aircraft without Germany's participation (report, October 1) seems short-sighted. Though the aim to secure some 40,000 jobs is admirable, there appears to have been very little debate about alternative uses of the vast sums involved.

Could not the billions of pounds which would be required to realise this order be put to more creative use by development of the undoubtedly supreme technology embodied in the aircraft's design for more constructive purposes?

There are hundreds of thousands of designers, applications engineers, technologists, marketing experts and skilled and unskilled technicians, many unemployed. The spin-off from commercial development of EFA technology would, if imaginatively managed, sustain and create a far greater number of jobs than those presently being considered, as well as helping the nation's exports.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER BATE-WILLIAMS,
Churchside,
Berkeley Street,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire,
September 30.

Ways to supply needs of the poorest

From Mr R. C. Lacey

Sir, The thought-provoking article by Matthew Parris, "What shall we do about the poor?" (September 29), raises an issue conveniently ignored by all political parties for far too long. It is a disturbing and profoundly depressing problem that is getting worse. The so-called "underclass" are caught in a vicious circle of deprivation and squalor. So what can be done?

Surely the starting point must be education. Teachers at inner-city schools already bear a tremendous burden trying to educate children who, in many cases, do not want to be educated. Their parents show no interest either.

The teachers must try to break through this barrier of ignorance and provide the motivation for self-improvement that cannot be found at home. To do this they need more help. Rather than throw more money at the social services perhaps one answer is to channel more funds to the inner-city schools to enable them to employ special teachers for these "special" children.

The problem is not unique to the inner cities, but it would at least be a start.

Yours faithfully,
R. C. LACEY,
Surrey Farmhouse,
Farnhurst,
Haslemere, Surrey,
September 29.

From Mr Paul Wilson

Sir, While social support and compassion are relatively easy to find in communities all over the country, the essential, underpinning financial resources are far more difficult to come by. They are provided by diverse sources which are themselves separated into watertight bureaucratic compartments — Department of Social Security, Home Office, Department of the Environment, Department of Health.

What is urgently required is a single funding authority with its own budget able to deploy government funds imaginatively and flexibly in response to the modest needs of the poorest. The often amazing resources of good will and assistance available in the community could thus be more effectively mobilised, without incurring high per capita expenditure.

Imagination, responsiveness and a refusal to write people off, even if they do not fit into tidy categories and administrative convenience, are all that is needed.

Yours sincerely,
PAUL WILSON (Chief Executive),
Carr-Gomm Society
(Charitable housing association),
Telegraph Hill Centre,
Kilto Road, SE14,
October 1.

From the Reverend John Kennedy

Sir, Matthew Parris's complacency on poverty is common among those whose views were formed by a post-

war Britain in which the government was expected to fall if unemployment rose above half a million and at a time when huge efforts were being made to provide the less well-off with affordable housing for rent. That process has now been halted.

More money is now spent on an open-ended tax subsidy for house purchase than is spent on building houses for rent. It is not true, as Mr Parris suggests, that a vast number of pseudo-poor people ride high on the welfare hog. Middle-class "fiscal welfare" continues. The post-war systems of education and health, meant to repair the inequalities in society, actually benefit the better off.

A large minority of British people has suffered a rapid decline in the availability of unskilled employment, without a countervailing development of skill training. It has seen a fall in the quantity of affordable housing for rent, and endures the awful quality of much of it. It has seen social expenditure rocket, without enjoying its benefits.

Unsurprisingly, a small minority within this group has cracked under the strain. It is their children whom Mr Parris encounters on the road to Liverpool. The so-called "underclass" is just the most entertaining fragment of a vastly greater group of people who have been largely excluded from our society.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN KENNEDY (Secretary,
Political, Social and
Economic Policy),
Division of Social Responsibility,
The Methodist Church,
1 Central Buildings,
Westminster, SW1,
October 1.

From Sir Henry Marking

Sir, Some years ago when I was chairman of the British Tourist Authority I had the pleasure and satisfaction of working with Dame Shirley Porter, then leader of Westminster City Council, on the campaign to clean up London (letter, September 29). Much was achieved and the benefits of that campaign remain.

But Matthew Parris's article on the opposite page on the poor of our cities highlights a far greater problem for "cleaning up" London. And the problem of those who live on the streets is not confined to London. It is all too apparent in other large towns, both in this country and overseas.

Dame Shirley and I never found a satisfactory solution to this aspect of the London clean-up campaign, but so long as the urban environment and the inadequate are left with no acceptable alternative to squalid life on the street, London in particular will always fall far short of being a place which we can show off with pride to our overseas visitors.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY MARKING,
Stretton Hall,
Nr Saffron Walden,
Essex,
September 29.

Overseas aid cuts

From the Director of Oxfam and others

Sir, Your report of September 28, "Agencies fear cut in aid", draws attention to the £274 million cut in the overseas aid budget proposed by the Treasury. This cut would have a crippling impact on some of the world's poorest countries and people.

With 40 million lives at risk in sub-Saharan Africa, there could not be a worse time to diminish Britain's ability to respond to urgent humanitarian and development needs. Our experience underlines the importance of long-term assistance in helping to make the poor less vulnerable to disasters.

Any cuts in development aid would also jeopardise the positive moves towards democracy and economic reform being undertaken in much of the developing world, which the British government has taken a lead in encouraging.

Only last June, at the Rio Earth summit, it committed itself to maintaining and increasing its overseas aid budget towards the agreed UN target of 0.7 per cent of GNP. A reversal of this clear commitment would seriously damage Britain's international standing.

Moreover, it is clear to us from the generous response to our appeals that

the British public would not be in favour of such a short-sighted policy.

The clear message of our supporters is that the government should be investing in a sustainable future for the world's poorest people by increasing aid.

Yours etc.,
DAVID BRYER
(Oxfam United Kingdom & Ireland),
NICHOLAS HINTON
(Save the Children Fund),
PAUL TYLER (Christian Aid),
MARTIN GRIFFITHS (Action Aid),
JULIAN FILOCHOWSKI (Cafod),
Oxfam,
274 Banbury Road, Oxford,
October 2.

From Mr James Pretty

Sir, Ministers must know that overseas aid is not an act of generosity but a partial restoration of what we take from developing countries through unfair terms of trade, as well as in debt repayments.

It would be scandalous to cut it and deprive the world's poor to recoup what we have paid out to speculators. Self-respect seems to be another casualty of the crisis.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES PRETTY,
24 Merton Road,
Watton, Thetford, Norfolk,
September 27.

Jewish land

From Mr Hyam Maccoy

Sir, Rabbi Cohn-Sherbok ("Make this a new year of peace and hope in Israel", September 28) writes that the Jews have "glorified" the Israeli conquest of Canaan, and based on this their claim to eternal possession of the land — an immoral claim that has "subtly shaped the Jewish psyche" resulting in the "sin of... territorial possessiveness". This thesis is mistaken.

The authoritative Jewish sources do not base the Jewish claim on conquest, but on the peaceful return to the land led by Ezra in the 6th century BC. The Talmud declares that what was gained by conquest was lost by conquest; but the peaceful return by permission of the Persian Empire gave a permanent right of possession.

Only those areas occupied in the time of Ezra are "sanctified for ever".

while other areas conquered previously by Joshua have lost their sanctity and do not form part of the Jewish land (see Babylonian Talmud, Arakhin 32b, codified by Maimonides, Mishneh Torah, Terumot, 1:5).

Thus the Jews are one of the few nations in the world whose claim to their land is based not on conquest but on international consent. The Jewish religion, contrary to Rabbi Cohn-Sherbok's contention, has never recognised the conquest as conferring a permanent right.

When the United Nations conferred nationhood on the Jews in 1947, they were confirming a situation that had existed for 2,500 years.

Yours faithfully,
HYAM MACCOY
(Librarian),
Leo Baeck College,
Sternberg Centre for Judaism,
80 East End Road, N3,
September 30.

Maps of London's 'underworld'

From the Director General and Chief Executive of Ordnance Survey

Sir, Simply by the fact that it exists, is comprehensive and of high quality, Ordnance Survey mapping of the ground surface forms the "template" to which other organisations fit their own information. Sir Alan Muir Wood (letter, September 26) has assured Gillian Tindall ("The flood beneath the capital's feet", *Life & Times*, September 15) that there is already in place a comprehensive equivalent to Ordnance Survey for London's "underworld". In essence, this sets out to describe the geology and the man-made structures underlying the OS map.

I suspect that the reality of the situation is somewhat more complicated. As Sir Alan points out, the ownership of such information as already exists is spread across many bodies: some of these regard their own holdings as of significant commercial value and hence to be shielded from competitors.

The logic of having a single, consistent and widely used description of both the surface and the underworld is obvious. To achieve that, however, requires that we can make it attractive either to information-owners to collaborate or to enforce information exchange by legislation. The Computerised Street and Road Works Register now being devised by the Department of Transport will enforce some sharing of information about the near-ground subsurface layers, hopefully positioned in relation to the above-ground topography shown on OS maps.

More generally, however, OS stands ready to play a role in bringing together the different players who hold information on the physical environment. Our aim is to achieve added value for all by bringing together information from different sources and to help to make the results generally available at a standard, agreed cost.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID RHIND,
Director General and
Chief Executive,
Ordnance Survey,
Romsey Road, Maybush,
Southampton, Hampshire,
September 29.

Opera House report

From the Secretary General of the Arts Council

Sir, In your leading article, "Operatic fantasy" (October 2), in which you criticise the Royal Opera House for bad management, you take a side swipe at the Arts Council. You suggest that it is "astonishing" that we allowed the condition that the company should break even financially to lapse.

Well it would have been, if we had. In fact we explicitly insist on balanced budgets for all our clients. With the very public exception of 1990-1 the Royal Opera House has budgeted for break-even or better. In the event, in five of the last seven years it has incurred substantial operating deficits.

Our appraisal report which Lady Warnock headed clearly states that in future the Royal Opera House must keep its budgetary promises; and makes a number of recommendations which will enable it to do so.

The Arts Council expects the board and management of the Royal Opera House to take all necessary steps to put its finances into good order and is pleased by its positive response to Lady Warnock's proposals.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY EVERITT,
Secretary General,
Arts Council,
14 Great Peter Street, SW1,
October 2.

Criminal Justice Act

From Mr Jonathan Goldberg, QC

Sir, The point which should perhaps be made most strongly about the new Criminal Justice Act (letters, October 1, 3) is that a government which campaigned as the party of law and order so stridently has now made it virtually impossible for the judges to imprison the persistent and professional small-time burglar and thief.

Yours sincerely,
JONATHAN GOLDBERG,
5 King's Bench Walk,
Temple, E.C.4,
October 3.

Brotherly orders

From Simon Aplin

Sir, I am afraid Mr Christopher Boulter (letter, September 29) is very behind the times in his views of the naming of different-aged brothers in prep schools. At my prep school the current system is "king size", "regular" and "fun size".

Yours faithfully,
SIMON APLIN (aged 12),
26 Prestbury Road,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire,
September 29.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.

OBITUARIES

DENNY HULME

Denis "Denny" Hulme, Formula One world motor racing champion in 1967, died of a heart attack during the Bathurst 1000 saloon car endurance race in Australia yesterday, aged 55. He was born in Nelson, New Zealand, on June 18, 1936.

THERE could scarcely be a more vivid contrast than that between today's publicity conscious and wealth-seeking motor racing champions and Denny Hulme, who won the 1967 Formula One World Championship in a Brabham-Repco, retiring to his native New Zealand seven years later.

Throughout his long career, which began in 1955 at the wheel of an MG TF and included eight grand prix victories between 1967 and 1974, two with Brabham and the remainder with McLaren, he was motivated solely by his love of racing. Wealth was of little concern to him and he eschewed the publicity which came his way at the height of his fame, although in recent years he seemed to take quiet enjoyment at being celebrated as something of a "golden oldie" on his occasional return visits to Europe.

The most recent of these was last May, when he revisited Monaco on the twenty-fifth anniversary of his first grand prix victory there, but more important to him was his journey to Goodwood a few days later for the unveiling of a memorial stone to his former team-mate and close friend, Bruce McLaren, who had been killed at the circuit in 1970 while testing one of the Can-Am sports cars.

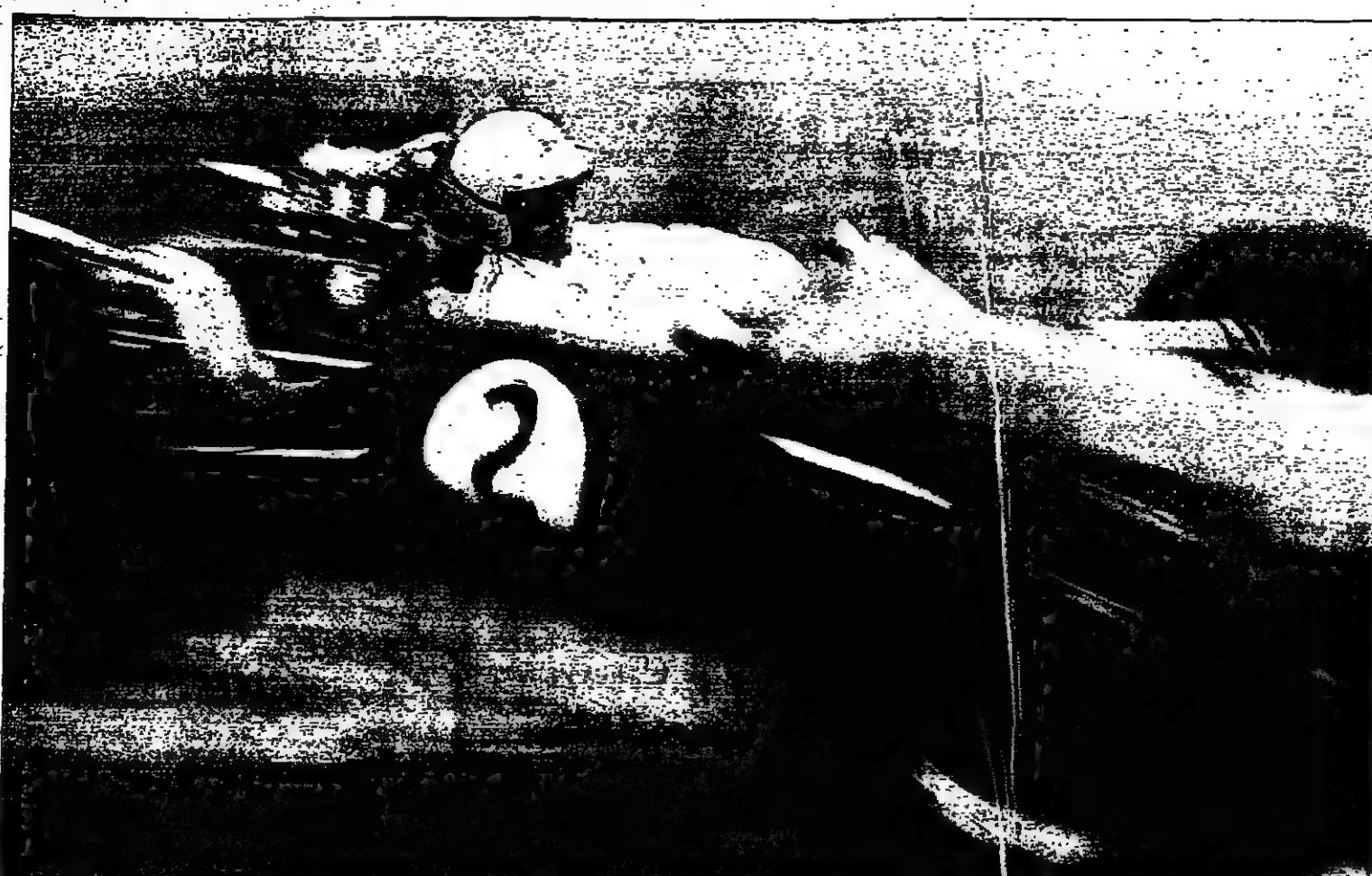
During the 1960s, McLaren and Hulme had completely dominated the North American race series, where they were known affectionately as the Bruce and Denny show.

It was on McLaren's death that the calibre of Hulme was to be seen in painful vividness. Weeks earlier, his hands had become so badly burned in an alcohol fire at Indianapolis that he could scarcely touch a steering wheel for fear of exacerbating his wounds. Yet soon he was back in a McLaren cockpit, racing in agony and lengthening his recovery in a selfless effort to help restore the morale of his shattered team.

Hulme dismissed it all as "just a job that had to be done", much as his father, the late Clive Hulme, would do when questioned on how he won the Victoria Cross in Crete. Denny Hulme's formidable appearance earned him the nickname The Bear, which he rather enjoyed and at times pretended to live up to, usually with the help of a minimum of well-selected words.

In reality, he was a shy and modest man, and when he was not behind the wheel of a racing car, or in recent times even a racing truck, he was at his most content tending the restoration and operation of his collection of stationary steam engines.

Hulme was the only son of a haulage contractor. Soon after his birth, the family moved to a small town called Te Puke in the Bay of Plenty province, North Island. Never



Denny Hulme in a Formula One Brabham Repco at Silverstone in 1967

much of a scholar, he was fond of engineering and was a natural mechanic. He learned to drive at the age of eight, obtained his private driving licence at 15 and a heavy traffic licence at 18.

On leaving school, he worked in a local garage repairing cars, tractors and even washing-machines before taking over the maintenance of his father's transport fleet.

Hulme made his motor sport debut in 1955 in a hill-climb, driving a new MG TF, and graduated through a series of sprints and club meetings to his first major victory at Ardmore in December 1957. From that moment he was determined to become a professional driver.

After an important victory in a Cooper Climax at the Vic Hudson Memorial Trophy at Levin early in 1960, Hulme and his compatriot George Lawton were jointly chosen by the New Zealand International Grand Prix Association to be sponsored for a season of European racing. Their promising progress was tragically cut short when Lawton was killed at Roskilde, Denmark, in September. Hulme returned home for the 1960-1 season and won the New Zealand drivers' championship in a Yeoman Credit Cooper.

He came back to Europe in 1961 and started his long struggle for recognition in the tough Formula Junior category. In 1962 he went to work for Jack Brabham (world champion driver in 1959, 1960 and 1966) as a racing mechanic and there is no doubt that Brabham must

take much of the credit for advising and moulding Hulme into world championship material. Hulme was a driver who lived, breathed and dreamed about racing cars and before long he was not only driving a works Formula Junior Brabham, but was rated one of the best and most ruthless drivers in Europe.

Brabham was pleased with his progress and entrusted him with a drive in the 1964 Tasman series, where he won at Pukekohe and had several other meritorious drives. With the advent of the new Formula Two category in 1964 (1000cc cars), Hulme really got into his stride and carried the Brabham marque to victory at Clermont-Ferrand and finished runner-up to Brabham himself in the French F2 championship.

Hulme made his Formula One debut in 1965 and drove a works-entered Brabham in six championship events, finishing fourth in the French and fifth in the Dutch grand prix. He was also unbeaten in the Group 7 2-litre class with a Brabham BT8 and won the Tourist Trophy for the first time that year. He repeated this success in 1966.

It was in 1966 that Hulme really came to the fore with some electrifying successes with Sid Taylor's Lola T70: a fourth place in the drivers' world championship, second at Le Mans in the 24-hour race in a Ford, and many brilliant supporting roles to Brabham in the all-conquering Formula Two Brabham-Honda cars. He won his first grand prix victory

at Monaco in May 1967, driving the 3-litre Brabham Ford. This was the start of an excellent year. He was second to Brabham in the French Grand Prix, second to Clark in the British event but won the German race on the formidable Nurburgring circuit.

He took a second in the Canadian GP and a third in the United States race at Watkins Glen. The world championship was not decided until the Mexican GP in October. Jim Clark won the race, Brabham came second and Hulme, needing only to get a place in the first five, finished third. He thus beat into second place his patron and team-mate Brabham, the 1966 champion, by 51 points to 48.

The following year Hulme joined the Bruce McLaren team at Colbrook, Buckinghamshire, and drove McLaren F1 and Can-Am cars. He stayed with the team for five seasons. He was placed third in world championship, winning the Italian and Canadian GPs and coming second in the Spanish GP. He also won the non-championship F1 Daily Express Trophy at Silverstone. He was Can-Am champion for the first time, winning the Road American at Elkhart Lake, the Kiodridge Trail 200 at Edmonton and the Stardust GP, Las Vegas.

In 1969 he was placed third in the drivers' championship, winning the Mexican GP. After McLaren's death in 1970, he took over as leader of the team and was fourth in world championship



with a second place in the South African GP, third in the British, German and Mexican GPs and fourth in the Monaco, French and Italian GPs.

He was also Can-Am champion for a second time. In 1971 Hulme won at Mosport Park, Edmonton and Riverstone, to become runner-up in the Can-Am series.

He is survived by his wife Grete, whom he married in 1963, and their daughter Adele. Their son Martin was killed in a boating accident a few years ago.

CARDINAL JACQUES MARTIN

Cardinal Jacques Martin, former Prefect of the Apostolic Household at the Vatican, died on September 27 in Rome aged 84. He was born on August 26, 1908, at Amiens, France.

CARDINAL Jacques Martin worked in the Roman curia under six popes, representing the French Resistance in the Vatican during the second world war and culminating his career as Prefect of the Apostolic Household.

He was known as the archetype of a churchman, "a humble and discreet person", who introduced Roman Catholic pontiffs to such figures as John Kennedy, Charles de Gaulle, Andrei Gromyko, the former Israeli prime minister Golda Meir, and the Queen.

Born at Amiens, in the Somme department of France, into a family originally from the Touraine region in the wine-growing centre of the country, he was the son of a colonel and was a reserve officer in the army in the 1930s. He was ordained in 1934 after attending the French seminary in Rome and went on to the Gregoriana University, taking doctorates in theology and canon law.

He remained in Rome after appointment to the Academy of Ecclesiastical Noblemen, as the Vatican diplomatic college was then known, and entered the French section of the Vatican Secretariat of State, the foreign ministry of the Holy See.

Although a humble and self-effacing man, Mgr Martin was one of the few senior churchmen in the Vatican to become a close confidant of six successive popes. He rarely spoke about his involvement with the French Resistance during the second world war, but his influence was crucial in relations between the church, the Resistance and government figures in the immediate postwar era in France.

His initial task after his appointment to the secretariat was to write the French diplomatic telegrams and other sensitive correspondence of the pope and his secretary of state. At the outbreak of war between France and Germany he helped to organize the shelter in the Vatican of Vladimir D'Oroshonov, the French ambassador to the Holy See appointed by the French prime minister Paul Reynaud, after the Germans put pressure on Mussolini to have the envoy leave Rome with other French diplomats.

When Fascist Italy declared war on France, French clergy working in the Vatican had to return home. Monsignor Martin, as he was then, was the only Frenchman allowed to remain in the Vatican because of his important work for the secretary of state. The authorities in Paris, before the

advent of Pétain's collaborationist government, exempted him from the call-up of reservists on the same grounds.

Mgr Martin was a profound patriot and used his unique position to open up communications between the Resistance and the Vatican. He was influential in drafting numerous papal documents and would never countenance criticism of Pius XII.

Immediately after the war, Mgr Martin arranged a visit by de Gaulle to the Vatican. After the war he remained at the head of the French section of the secretariat under Pius XII, John XXIII (1958-1963) and Paul VI (1963-1978). He built up a team of brilliant Francophone prelates in what became known as the "section Martin".

Mgr Martin had kept a detailed diary of his war years. He declined for years to write his memoirs, but at the suggestion of present Pope he changed his mind and they were ready for publication just before he died.

In 1964 he was appointed to organise the voyage to the Holy Land of Paul VI. On their arrival, the Pope told him that he was promoting him to archbishop of the titular diocese of Nablouse. He was consecrated on February 11, 1964, and remained a senior adviser to the Secretary of State. In 1969 Paul VI named him Prefect of the Apostolic Household, charged principally with organising papal audiences for foreign dignitaries. John Paul II, elected in 1978, retained Archbishop Martin in this post until December 1986.

In 1988 the Pope made him, at the age of 79, a cardinal and for two months he was part of the College of Cardinals eligible to elect a pontiff. Under canon law cardinals must leave the electoral college at the age of 80.

Archbishop Martin shared with the Polish Pope his love of sporting activities and was a keen walker and swimmer. A few weeks before his death he went bathing at the "beach of cardinals", used by prelates from the curia, a few miles north of Rome. He ended his life in a small flat in the apostolic palace.



WILLIAM BARRETT

William Barrett, American philosopher and chronicler of the postwar generation of New York intellectuals, died of cancer in Tarrytown, New York, on September 8, aged 78. He was born in New York City on December 30, 1913.

UNLIKE many philosophers, William Barrett possessed the priceless gift of clarity in his writing. It was through his lucid prose, notably in his first book, *Irrational Man*, published in 1958, that he was able to bring the European theory of existentialism to a wide audience in the United States.

Growing up in the years of the depression, Barrett embraced Marxism while a student at City College in Manhattan. "Socialism," he wrote later, "seemed the simple and inevitable answer. It

was taken as a matter of course that any young man of reasonable intelligence and goodwill would be a Marxist... It was our Marxist decade; yet the irony was that his experience of Marxism was something remote and distant - either intellectually in the intricacies of a theory that didn't mesh with our actual life, or romantically remote in the deeds of socialist heroes in far-off lands."

Barrett progressed to Columbia University, where he completed his dissertation on Aristotle and was awarded his PhD in 1938 at the age of 25. He took up teaching positions at the Illinois University and then at Brown University on Long Island, but an event had already occurred which would have a profound effect on his life.

In the winter of 1937 he was introduced by his close friend, the poet Delmore Schwartz, to William Phillips

and Philip Rahv, editors of the *Partisan Review*, a radical left-wing journal that promoted avant-garde culture.

Barrett was entranced. "They belonged to the great world outside the walls of the academy where I was still struggling for a degree," he later wrote. "There was the world of bohemia and the arts, of political movements and counter-movements, bold and sweeping ideologies. They were therefore beings invested in my eyes with a strange and mysterious glamour."

The glamour had to wait. Barrett was inducted into the United States forces in 1942 and served for a while with the Office of Strategic Services in Italy, where he helped to find and to relocate distinguished Italians who were trapped in German-held territory.

Demobilised in 1945, he quickly renewed contact with Delmore Schwartz and was hired as an associate editor of

Partisan Review. Competent in Italian, French and German, and able to transmute densely abstract European philosophy into simple English, Barrett began to use the magazine to spread the gospel of existentialism.

Although still a socialist, he had begun to take a strong stand against the Stalinist regime in the Soviet Union, labelling it as a "criminal dictatorship". He attacked the American liberal establishment for its blindness to the totalitarian nature of the Soviet system.

The *Partisan Review* ultimately became riven with internal feuds and Barrett left it in 1952 to return to academia, joining the faculty of New York University. The experience, he said, had prompted him to "relate philosophy to the real affairs of men in history".

But his fascination with existentialism continued. In

Irrational Man, in which he explored the thinking of Søren Kierkegaard, Friedrich Nietzsche, Martin Heidegger and Jean-Paul Sartre, he described the movement as a protest against the pervasive rationalism and abstractness of the modern age. The book was enthusiastically received by critics and has become a classic introductory text.

The social turmoil of the 1960s turned Barrett away from radicalism to a mixture of liberal and conservative ideas that became known as neo-conservatism. He deplored the youth movement for its debasement of cultural standards and his perceived threat to stable democratic institutions. Barrett began to believe that the classless society was "a Utopian illusion" and went so far as to vote for Ronald Reagan in 1980, although maintaining that he was still a liberal at heart.

A string of books ensued,

culminating with *The Truants: Adventures Among the Intellectuals*, published in 1982, which recounted Barrett's friendships and associations with such writers as Rahv, Schwartz, Mary McCarthy, Dwight Macdonald and Hannah Arendt. A *New York Times* reviewer called the book "a penetrating analysis of the intellectual life of its period, and essential reading for anyone attempting to understand the art and culture and politics of the present age".

Barrett retired from teaching at New York University in the late 1970s, but remained active as a senior fellow at the National Humanities Centre and as a visiting professor at Pace University in New York City. His last book, *Death of the Soul: From Descartes to the Computer*, was published in 1986.

He is survived by a son and a daughter.

Fulbright awards

The Fulbright Commission in London has announced awards to the following US graduate students to study in Britain in 1992/93. The students are drawn from all parts of the US and have been selected from over 400 applicants for the Fulbright Award under the Fulbright Program of educational visits and exchanges with Britain.

M Braun (Washington Univ) Slade School of Art, sculpture; S Buckling (SUNY Empire State College) Trinity College, Cambridge, classics; B Burrows (Kansas State Univ) Leeds Univ, textile science; P Chang (Univ of Southern California) tuition with William Pleeth and Royal College of Music, cello; C Decker (Yale Univ) Trinity College, Cambridge, English literature; R Follett (Washington Univ) Royal Holloway and Bedford New College, London, history; D Goss (Stevens Univ) Edinburgh Univ, Scottish intellectual history; J Hambrick (Eastern School of Music Royal Academy of Music, Bath) P Harger (Johns Hopkins Univ) Wellcome/CRC Institute Cambridge, developmental biology; B Johnson (College of William and Mary,

Virginia) Lincoln College, Oxford, forestry; T Knight (Washington and Lee Univ) University College Oxford, history; A Lopez (Univ of Pennsylvania) Somerville College, Oxford, law; M Miller (Wheaton College) Darwin College, Cambridge, developmental economics; T Oatley (Emory Univ) Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House, politics.

J Orlowski (New York Univ) British Library, musicology; D Page (Brandeis Univ) British Library, music history; J Preven (Harvard Univ) Trinity Coll Camb, English lit; M Robinson (Univ of Calif Irvine) London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, acting; R Rout (Ohio State Univ) Queens College, Cambridge, history; R Singh (Princeton Univ) Christ Church, Oxford, European politics; K Smith (Inst of Fine Arts, NY) Univ Coll London, medieval English art; K Stack (Brown Univ) New College, Oxford, philosophy; H Thaggett (New York Univ) King's College London, international law; C Waters (Harvard Univ) King's College London, English literature; B Wyle (Yale Univ) Emmanuel College, Cambridge, English literature.

Turner watercolour may fetch £500,000

By JOHN SHAW

A TINY but highly atmospheric view of Venice by Turner could become the artist's first watercolour to sell for £500,000 at auction when it appears at Sotheby's in London on November 18.

"The Grand Canal with Santa Maria della Salute", (8½ x 12½"), set an auction record for English watercolours when it made £440,000 at Phillips in London in April 1988.

Turner's watercolours of Venice are among his most beautiful and sought-after works. Virtually all of them belong to the Turner Bequest, but a small group was entrusted to Thomas Griffiths, his agent. This was the last to remain with Griffiths's descendants. Although the present vendor has not been named,

he is known to be Hermann Schnabel, a German industrialist and Turner enthusiast. He is selling five works by the artist at the auction which together could make £1.3 million.

The Grand Canal study shows the water at sunset with the cupolas of the church silhouetted against the darkening clouds of an approaching storm. It was probably painted from his hotel steps during his last visit to the city in 1840. Schnabel's other pictures include "Whitehaven, Cumberland", a scene of fishermen salvaging cargo from a wreck.

A further three watercolours by the artist are included in the sale, making what is thought to be the largest number of Turners to appear in one sale.

Latest wills

Professor Henry Dickinson Westlake, of Waresley, Cambs, Hulme Professor of Greek in the University of Manchester 1949-72, where he had also been Dean of the Faculty of Arts and of the Faculty of Music and vice-chancellor, left estate valued at £188,923 net. He left £2,000 to St John's College, Cambridge.

Mr Donald Arthur Work, of Cambridge, Fellow Emeritus of Hughes Hall, Cambridge, left estate valued at £456,429 net.

He left £99,500 and other bequests to personal legatees, £60,000 to Cambridge University Faculty Board of Music, to provide an annual lecture prize for students, the provision of recitals assisting students or other charitable purposes as they decide, £2,500 to Elizabeth Phillips Hughes Hall, Cambridge, to further academic development by providing a bi-annual lecture commemorating the centenary of the Wood Memorial Lecture, together with his Grosvenor Settlement piano and stool, £2,500 to the Chapter of St Edward King and Martyr, Cambridge, to establish a distinguished visiting professorship for St Edward's Church, £2,000 to St Andrew's Congregational Church, Hants, in memory of his parents, £2,000 to the Bach Choir, and the residue to his Trustees for wholly charitable purposes as they think fit to decide.

Journalist's award

Nick Nuttall, the *Times* technology correspondent, was named BT national and regional newspapers technology journal list of the year. Mr Nuttall received the award from Heinz Wolff, professor of bioengineering at Brunel University, and Dr Alan Rudge, managing director of development and procurement at BT's Marlesham Laboratories, at the Royal Aeronautical Society.

Prime Minister

The Prime Minister and Mrs Major were hosts at an opera evening at the Theatre on Saturday in aid of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council.

University news

London ST GEORGE'S MEDICAL SCHOOL. Dr CAJ. Wils, to be Professor in Reproductive Physiology; Dr B.R. Bewley to be Reader in Public Health Medicine.

OCT 5 ON THIS DAY 1928

These memoirs were written by Siegfried Sassoon (1886-1967), rider to hounds, soldier and poet. They were greatly admired and, in the months after their publication, repeatedly reprinted. Sassoon, who was awarded the Hawthornden Prize in 1929, published *Memoirs of an Infantry Officer* under his own name soon after.

The anonymous writer of these memoirs must be now, judging by the few events that he describes to which one can put a date, but little over 40. The record which he has set down is that of his youth, and comes to an end amid scenes of war, in the spring of 1916. The ending is, indeed, a little abrupt, and it would seem possible that the writer intends to tell us something more of that young foxhunter, left forlornly "ploughing" back to his dug-out on Easter Sunday at dawn. If so, and if that more equals this in quality, it will certainly be welcomed.

A FOXHUNTER'S MEMOIRS.

MEMOIRS OF A FOX-HUNTING MAN (Faber and Gwyer, 7s.6d. net)

The anonymous writer of these memoirs must be now, judging by the few events that he describes to which one can put a date, but little over 40. The record which he has set down is that of his youth, and comes to an end amid scenes of war, in the spring of 1916. The ending is, indeed, a little abrupt, and it would seem possible that the writer intends to tell us something more of that young foxhunter, left forlornly "ploughing" back to his dug-out on Easter Sunday at dawn. If so, and if that more equals this in quality, it will certainly be welcomed.

The best of a good tale is in the telling, as many others besides Shakespeare have shown us. The life of this writer, as boy and man up to the outbreak of War, must have been extraordinarily pleasant to live, whatever moralists may have to say regarding its idleness, but it was not particularly eventful. Other youths in those easier days before 1914, backed by moderate but assured incomes, dallied awhile unable to decide upon a career; played cricket in summer, hunted in winter, rode in a few point-to-point races. For some even horsemanship came more naturally, having averages were higher, "pots" more plentiful, for our author is almost painfully

anxious to impart to us a sense of his mistakes, his humblings, his nervousness. But as he relates the story there emerges a most delightful picture of English country life, by no means of its sporting side only. It is written in the pleasantest of good prose, simple, cool, and telling. It is marked by very vivid perception and by quiet and good-humoured irony. The irony is perhaps due to the fact that the majority of his associates did not quite live up to the standard he had fixed for them either in picturesqueness or skill; a standard taken from the works of Surtees. Now many more foxhunters than is commonly imagined are readers, and most are readers of Surtees. But they come to that master, as a rule, when they are already fairly experienced followers of hounds. This boy, on the other hand, was still a neophyte by the time he had steeped himself in "Handley Cross", "Mr. Sponge's Sporting Tour", and the other books. There was then some disillusionment when he found the tempo a little slower, the colours a little less bright, no huntsman quite so daring and clever as James Pigg, no "coper" quite so subtle as Sponge, no "character" to match Jorrocks. This is not to suggest that he was disappointed in his sport. On the contrary, his ardour grew steadily, and his last season before the War, with four horses which he could not afford in the Shires, was one of pure bliss. But he watched himself a little cynically - or now believes he did so.

The village cricket is delightfully balanced; it has all the ideal background of the most picturesque of games, touched with the happiest humour. Never once is it conventionalized into an old sporting print on the one hand or debased by a hint of caricature on the other. He has dared to set upon his title-page one of the most hackneyed of all quotations, "This happy breed of men, this little world"; but we feel that he has every right to it. The breed and the little world he has recreated for us with rare skill and charm.

By MATTHEW D'ANCONA, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

"All we've had is a terse three-paragraph letter about the secretary of state's decision. We've got a child who's going to be there for seven years and we're effectively disenfranchised. It doesn't matter whether you're for or against opting out, you should have a vote. But because there's so little communication a lot of first year parents don't even know they haven't got one."

David Inman, chairman of the governors until last week, said he was unhappy but continued to support opting out. "The law says that you should make every reasonable effort to have a proper ballot and that we did, but we also made a couple of mistakes. It has come as a complete surprise to everyone," he added.

The education department said that Mr Patten's decision was in line with the 1988 Education Reform Act but declined to speculate on the need for an amendment to existing legislation. Local Schools Information, the pressure group funded by local authorities, said Mr Patten had "exercised his discretion to arrive at the least satisfactory outcome" and should have rejected the ballot instead of ordering a rerun.

The school, founded by Cardinal Newman, was Birmingham's first sixth form college and last year won a National Schools Curriculum Award for excellence. Former pupils include J.R. Tolkien.

Parents and students have criticised the proposal to turn the college into a secondary school as running the risk of reinforcing bigotry and mistrust, and not in the best interests of education in the region.

on subsidiarity would stop the Commission from making "excessive rules and interventions".

The two-to-one majority against Maastricht is a mirror image of the margin in favour of Britain remaining in the Community in the 1975 referendum. The poll also shows that the balance of views on Maastricht is similar across supporters of the parties. Only

**Mori details and
Fowler interview, page 2
Tory bandages, page 10
Leading article and
letters, page 11
1922-committee and
conference fashion,
I&T section**

ACROSS	
1 Bangers for a party? (8).	29 Contribute, and so get on in time (6).
5 A French boy trains before school (6).	30 The home check-up can be most boring (8).
10 The poor player cut short the minister (5).	
11 A good painter does flat (9).	DOWN
12 Grind may appear repulsive (9).	1 Hard top vehicle quickly constructed (8).
13 Laid turn many applaud (5).	2 Lame Cuban moved in this vehicle (9).
14 Bound to study choice (7).	3 "War, war is still the cry. 'War even to the —' (Byron) (5).
16 The artist will put one into a giant frame (6).	4 About a hundred dash for lounge (7).
19 A proper player has fifty roses in an arrangement (6).	5 Half were given medical attention when retired (9).
21 Tampered with a note a cleric left behind (7).	6 An old book to piece together (5).
23 Turned out the trainee for being a boss (5).	7 The point may be placed on record (6).
25 Contribute to get the fellow in front of a work of art (9).	9 Aim to get into temporary accommodation (8).
27 Such a criminal makes some noise always (9).	15 On the rocks, in the sun and air (9).
28 Practice America for example	

Philip Howard
JOHN HUME
a. A populist rebel leader
b. A sly priest
c. A jolly huntsman
ELBOW
a. A dim-witted constable
b. A companion of Falstaff
c. Mistress Quickly's husband
CASCA
a. A serving-maid
b. A merchant of Verona
c. A conspirator
TRINCULO
a. A morose jester
b. A fairy
c. A wit of Padua

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a dial 0836 401 followed by appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks
C. London (within N & S Circs.)
M4-ways/roads M4-M1
M1-ways/roads M1-Dartford T
M2-ways/roads Dartford T-M23
M3-ways/roads M23-M4
M25 London Orbital only

National traffic and roadworks
National motorways
West Country
Wales
Midlands
East Anglia
North-west England
North-east England
Scotland
Northern Ireland

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute (peak rate).

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 h and 48 h, call 0800 550 000 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London.....
Kent, Surrey & Sussex.....
Dorset, Dorset & IOW.....
Devon & Cornwall.....
Wiltshire, Gloucestershire & Avon.....
Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxford.....
Barnet, Herts & Essex.....
Northants, Suffolk, Cambs.....
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent.....
Shropshire, Hereford & Wores.....
Central Midlands.....
East Midlands.....
Derbyshire, Leics & Notts.....
Lincs & Humberside.....
Dyfed & Powys.....
Gwynedd & Gwynedd.....
N W England.....
M & S Yorks & Dales.....
S E England.....
Cumbria & Lake District.....
N W Scotland.....
Central Scotland.....
East & Fife/Lothian & Borders.....
E Central Scotland.....
S E Scotland & E Highlands.....
N W Scotland.....
Gairloch, Sutherland & Shetland.....
N Ireland.....

Weather forecast is charged at 39p per minute (plus 10p per line) and 49p per minute (plus 10p per line) for calls from 0900 to 1700 hours.

North and West. The East and South East will have light showers. Winds will be fresh or strong in the South East, occasionally gale force. Northwest Scotland and the northern isles will be cloudy, with drizzle persisting for most of the day. Outlook: dry and mainly fine in the North and West; rain in the South.

[illegible]

Westerday: Temp. max 6am to 6pm, 15C (59F); min 6pm to 6am, 12C (54F). Humidity: 70-80%. Wind: 24hr to 24hr to 24hr, 14 mph. Rain: 24hr to 24hr, 7.4 hr. Bar. mean sea level, 6m. High: 1,015.1 millibars. Low: 1,000 millibars = 29.53 in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Saturday: Highest day time temp: Worthing, 17C (63F). Lowest day time temp: Easton, 12C (54F). Highest nightfall: Bristol, 0.08 in. Highest sunshine: Bognor Regis, 9.6 hr.

MANCHESTER

Westerday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 15C (59F); min 6pm to 6am, 10C (50F). Rain: 24hr to 24hr, 10.5 hr. Bar. 24hr to 24hr, 2.9.

GLASGOW

Westerday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 14C (57F); min 6pm to 6am, 6C (43F). Rain: 24hr to 24hr, 10.5 hr. Bar. 24hr to 24hr, 2.9.

	Sun	Rain	Max
	in	in	°F
Abbeville	0.7	0.21	67 rain
Adelphi	0.7	0.21	67 rain
Albany	1.6	0.23	64 rain
Bellevue	3.0	0.07	59 shower
Bethesda	0.7	0.13	65 rain
Birmingham	0.7	0.04	73 rain
Bristol	1.1	0.13	73 rain
Camden	0.7	0.13	65 rain
Cardiff	4.7	0.03	15 rain
Cleaton	0.7	0.93	70 rain
Columbia	0.7	0.13	65 rain
Conley	4.0	0.25	16 rain
Douglas	0.5	0.03	13 rain
Durham	0.7	0.13	65 rain
Edinburgh	0.8	0.28	14 57 rain
Edmondsville	0.7	0.13	65 rain
Elizabethton	0.9	0.17	65 rain
Fayetteville	0.7	1.21	55 rain
Greenville	0.7	0.13	65 rain
Huntsville	2.5	0.97	17 63 rain
Jenney	5.1	0.14	18 60 bright
Knoxville	2.2	0.13	65 rain
Leads	0.35	0.14	57 rain
Lenoir	0.7	0.13	64 rain
Lynchburg	0.7	0.13	64 rain
Lowellville	1.4	0.07	11 61 cloudy
Marietta	0.7	0.13	65 rain
Marion	4.8	0.02	15 58 bright
Monroeville	0.58	0.14	57 rain
Newcastle	0.7	0.13	65 rain
Nottingham	0.65	0.14	57 rain
Perrinesville	1.4	0.03	55 dull
Pittsboro	0.7	0.13	65 rain
Pocahontas	0.7	0.13	65 rain
Pocahontas	5.2	0.17	19 58 sunny
Sanderson	0.7	0.18	x rain
Seaboard	0.7	0.24	58 rain
Seaboard	1.6	0.01	55 dull x
Soyles	5.0	0.02	14 57 bright
St. Albans	0.7	0.13	65 rain
Sumner	0.7	0.13	65 cloudy
Swainsboro	6.0	0.02	58 sunny
Tallahassee	7.0	0.03	14 57 shower
Tell	0.2	0.21	14 57 rain
Tigra	0.7	0.13	65 rain
Torquay	6.2	0.05	15 59 sunny
Union	0.7	0.13	65 rain
Worthing	0.7	0.23	14 57 rain

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia \$	2.47	2.27
Austria Sch	18.10	18.70
Belgium F	46.00	46.00
Canada Cdn	2.03	2.097
France F	10.53	10.53
Finland Mk	8.86	7.56
Germany D	2.87	8.00
Greece Dr	3.70	3.70
France Fr	322.00	307.00
Hong Kong \$	12.36	12.82
India Rupee	0.58	0.58
Italy Lire	2236.00	2080.00
Japan Yen	222.25	203.25
South Korea Gld	10.50	9.70
Newway Hk	12.50	13.20
Portugal Esc	2.50	212.50
Switzerland Fd	2.50	4.25
Spain Ptas	173.00	162.00
Sweden Kr	10.90	8.89
Switzerland Fr	2.25	2.25
Turkey Lira	143.00	12100.0
US\$	1.007	1.877
UK Pound	1.807	1.807
Yugoslavia Dnr	1.00	1.00

Rates for most denominated bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. NB Rates are



Mr Clarke, home secretary, interviewed on BBC Television's *On the Record* programme, said the ERM withdrawal meant that the government's previous pledges to control public spending were even more important to give the government credibility in the new situation of a floating exchange rate. The government, he added, had pledged itself against tax increases, "which is why we have to look to public spending to get the fiscal deficit down to acceptable levels".

Asked whether he was saying there would be no tax increase, Mr Clarke replied: "Our policy, our aim, is to get public expenditure under control so that there is no need for tax increases."

**The solution of
Saturday's Prize
Puzzle No 19,040 will
appear next Saturday.
The 5 winners will
receive a Duofold
fountain pen supplied
by Parker**

Concise Crossword, page 9
Life & Times section

London 6.29 pm to 7.30 am
 Bristol 6.38 pm to 7.19 am
 Edinburgh 6.57 pm to 7.37 am
 Manchester 6.38 pm to 7.20 am
 Penzance 6.52 pm to 7.30 am

Sun rises:
 7.05 am

Moon sets:
 6.29 am

Moon rises:
 12.28 am

Moon sets:
 3.58 pm

Tem. at midday yesterday: a. cloud, f. fall
 T. min, a. 20.1

	C	F		C	F
Belfast	14	57	Glasgow	18	64
Birmingham	12	54	Inverness	14	57
Blackpool	16	59	Jersey	15	59
Bristol	16	61	London	16	61
Cardiff	15	59	Manchester	14	57
Edinburgh	13	55	Newcastle	13	56
Glasgow	13	56	Oldbury	13	56
			Gusbury	13	56

[illegible]

Information supplied by Met Office

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IN THE NEWS

Goodwin's foresight saga beats the slump

Two years ago the cranes of Hewden Stuart towered menacingly over a development-scarred London landscape like something from War of the Worlds. But, just like HG Wells' Martians, their demise was already being plotted. Fortunately the man doing the plotting was Sir Matthew Goodwin, Hewden Stuart's chairman. With the foresight of someone with 30 years in the plant hire business and the shrewdness of a Scottish accountant, Sir Matthew looked at the late eighties and did not like what he saw.

The result was that as others borrowed their way to boom and destruction, Hewden Stuart started quietly de-gearing. Equipment that had only been for rent was still for rent, but with a tempting option to buy at the end of the hire period. It worked. Half the 180-strong tower crane fleet that once helped build such Eighties landmarks as Canary Wharf and Broadgate is now dispersed, part of a process that ensured that when recession hit there was cash in the bank.

The strategy's success was a vindication of Sir Matthew's conservatism, with a little "C". But that it was necessary at all must have been disap-



Goodwin: foresight

pointing to one of those rare Scots whose politics begin with a capital "C". At 63 the former deputy chairman of the Scottish Conservatives may have stepped down from active politics, but his commitment to Hewden Stuart — a company now admired rather than derided for its caution — remains strong. While other plant hire groups dance to the tune of their finance houses, this week's interims should show it squeezed by recession, but nevertheless locked in a cash-rich, virtuous circle that allows it to keep its fleet up-to-date and in demand.

The recession has brought benefits as companies decide that the expensive bit of kit they had got used to buying every five years might be better leased and — if Hewden Stuart gets its way — operated and serviced by a third party. The active role is crucial, Sir Matthew may be a banker by nature, but Hewden Stuart is no bank.

MATTHEW BOND

Threatened pits may be sold off before privatisation

By PATRICIA TEHAN

THE government is to offer for sale some of the 30 mines it plans to close ahead of the privatisation of British Coal.

In a controversial move, the trade department has decided to try to sell some of the pits, even though they will be handicapped without the benefit of coal contracts with the two power generators, National Power and PowerGen.

About 30 pits are scheduled to be closed, reducing British Coal to a core of 20 mines ahead of privatisation in 1994, because of a shrinking demand for coal from the English

and Welsh electricity companies. Under a proposed five-year contract, the volume of coal would shrink from 65 million tonnes this year to 40 million next year and 30 million for the next four.

Once the coal contracts between British Coal and the generators are signed British Coal will nominate the pits deemed to have no viable future for closure. But an industry source said the government hopes to find buyers among mining groups.

The DTI's main worry over the plans is that groups of miners being made redundant with the closures may be tempted to put their redun-

dancy package into buyout funds for their mines. If the mine then fails the miners will have lost everything.

The signing of the contracts is still believed to be over a week away. It is delayed by objections raised by the regional electricity companies which must agree to take coal-fired power before the generators can sign up for the coal.

Yorkshire Electricity is taking the brunt of the blame for the delay. Last week, it said: "We have offered to take our fair share of coal-based contracts in relation to our size of the franchise market."

However, one source close to the talks said that although Yorkshire is

agreeing to take its fair share in relation to its share of the franchise market, it is ignoring the fact that other companies have contractual arrangements with other power suppliers and are not as free as Yorkshire to take more.

Yorkshire is believed to be furious that it is being expected to take more coal than is should just because other firms have significant commitments with independent suppliers.

One industry source said there is a good deal of in-fighting among the regional companies. They are also determined to win approval from Oftec, the industry regulator, to pass on the higher costs of coal-fired

power to the customer. Oftec argues that they must supply power as economically as possible.

They are annoyed that Stephen Littlechild, director general of Oftec, has been unwilling to commit himself before he has completed a review of pricing in 1994. If Professor Littlechild refuses to recognise the coal contracts, the regional companies say they will be unable to sign unless the contracts contain a let-out clause.

Even if the contracts are signed this week, Michael Heseltine, trade secretary, is understood to have ruled out any announcement of a debate on energy at this week's party

conference in Brighton. He believes it would be impossible to turn the announcement of 30 pit closures with the loss of 25,000 miners' jobs into good news for the party loyalists gathering this week.

The extent of the proposed closures has already horrified those in the industry. In October last year, Roy Lynk, general secretary of the Union of Democratic Mineworkers, was making positive noises about the privatisation. The UDM appointed advisers on the union's own role in the privatisation at the end of last October. But last week he met John Major to urge him to think again about the closures.

Trafalgar House confirms review panel enquiry

By COLIN CAMPBELL

TRAFALGAR House has confirmed that as a result of its admission of a £102.7 million "hole" in its 1991 profits, the company's accounts are under investigation by the Financial Reporting Review Panel.

The engineering and construction group, which also owns the Kitz Hotel and Q&E liner, admitted at the weekend the group's 1991 report had been under scrutiny from the Review Panel since February.

While in progress, details of Review Panel examinations are confidential to the parties, and Trafalgar, headed by Sir Nigel Brookes, indicated that it would only have made a statement once the examination had been completed.

However, in view of last week's unwelcome acquisition by Hongkong Land Holdings of a 14.9 per cent stake in the group, Trafalgar felt obliged to go public. The Review Panel sanctioned Trafalgar's Saturday announcement that its 1991 accounts were being scrutinised.

The Panel concentrates on larger companies and will decide to investigate if any set of accounts is qualified, if its attention is drawn to a particular set of accounts, and/or if there has been public criticism. Its current workload is said to cover at least 12 companies, though, while under study, none is named.

Trafalgar said yesterday it was restrained from making further comment until the investigation was complete.

At issue is Trafalgar

House's treatment of write-downs totalling £102.7 million which were taken through a revaluation reserve in the group's annual report for the year to last September.

A different accounting treatment would have denied 1991 pre-tax profits, which Trafalgar had announced were £122.4 million for its 1991 financial year, compared with pre-tax profits of £151.5 million earned in 1990.

Criticism of Trafalgar's accounting treatment, disclosed by the group last December in a note to the preliminary announcement, and further outlined in the annual report in February, alerted the Panel's attention and triggered its investigation.

Trafalgar House is said to have co-operated fully with the Review Panel, whose examination is being conducted by up to seven of its 22 members.

Trafalgar's board and advisers yesterday held an all-day "strategic meeting" in London, although it said discussions were essentially concerned with the HK Land purchase rather than the matter of 1991 accounts.

"Trafalgar House wishes to make it clear that any consequential amendments to its accounting practices and policies should not affect the aggregate of shareholders' funds shown by the company's balance sheet at September 30, 1991", the group's Saturday statement said.

Its only comment yesterday was that 1991 accounts were drawn up and presented after

having taken "the best possible professional advice, and with the approval of our auditors".

Terry Smith, former head of research at UBS Phillips & Drew, the stockbroker, and author of the book *Accounting for Growth*, said yesterday that he was not surprised by the admission that Trafalgar's 1991 accounts were under investigation. He said Trafalgar had made use of a switch from "current" to "fixed" in the classification of assets, "a topic which I would have dealt with separately as chapter 13 had I not been superstitious".

Tomorrow, Sir Nigel will issue a robust circular urging shareholders to "stand by Trafalgar" after last week's unwelcome acquisition by Hongkong Land Holdings of a 14.9 per cent stake.

HK Land has made a tender offer at 85p a share in the hope of acquiring a further 15 per cent stake. The tender offer closes on Friday.

Trafalgar's shares closed last week at 85p, valuing the group at £600 million. A year ago, the group commanded a market capitalisation of more than £2 billion.

Sydney Treadgold, secretary to the Panel, said: "I can make no comment on the detail of the Review Panel's discussions with Trafalgar House." The Review Panel is expected to issue a public statement shortly when its investigation is complete.

Repelling boarders, page 16
Comment, page 17

Publisher books listing

By OUR CITY STAFF

DORLING Kindersley Holdings, the international publisher whose principal business is adults' and children's books, is planning a stock market listing this month.

Peter Kindersley, chairman and chief executive, says historically most titles created by DK have sold more than 100,000 copies, and that 12 have sold more than a million copies.

The group, which is exhibiting at the Frankfurt Book Fair this week, was established 18 years ago, and DK books sell in more than 80 countries.

Pre-tax profits in the year ended June 30 jumped from £3.66 million to £7.5 million, on sales of £70.8 million (pro forma £42.8 million in 1991).



New chapter: Peter Kindersley at the Frankfurt fair

French live up to image in risk business

By JONATHAN PRYNN
INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

WHO would be a worker in France? With typically Gallic concern for *le style*, French finance directors rate harm to their companies' image as one of their highest risk concerns, ahead of damage to employees' lives and limbs.

This order of priorities of French FDs is at odds with those of their counterparts in other countries, according to a survey commissioned by Sedgwick, the international insurance brokers. The survey, carried out by Graham Bannock & Partners, the market researcher, was based on interviews with finance directors and risk managers at 353 companies in the UK, America, France and the Benelux countries.

In a ranking of types of risk by level of concern, respondents from all the countries except France rated environmental liability as their biggest worry and employee and public liability as one of the top five. In France, however, employee liability ranked a lowly 12th, behind cover

for security of property, credit risk and "image impairment".

The latter is insurance taken out to cover the effects of catastrophically bad publicity about a product or the company. The problem may be uppermost in French executive minds because of the damage done to the image and sales of Perrier in 1990 when some bottles of the fizzy water were contaminated with benzene.

British companies, too, have reason to be concerned about specialist areas of risk with a lower profile in other countries. Pension fund integrity risk ranks predictably high among British finance directors' priorities in the wake of the Maxwell affair.

However, by far the most glaring anomaly of all is French executive attitudes towards environmental risk. Only 26 per cent of the French respondents to the survey mentioned this as one of the three most critical forms of risk for their companies. This compared with 69 per cent in the US, 58 per cent in the Benelux countries and 51 per cent in

Britain. Jan Janus, chairman of Sedgwick Nederland, said the finding reflected the lack of a major industrial pollution claims in France and a belief that the costs of an environmental disaster would be handled by central government. "For example there is an absolute absence of concern about nuclear power in France," he said.

Concern about credit risk, the highest priority category of risk in France according to the survey, dates back to problems in being paid for exports to the former French empire countries of North and West Africa, he said.

The overall finding of the survey, *Risk Management: A Board Room Issue for the 1990s*, was that management of risk has become an issue of increasing concern in the boardrooms of companies around the world in recent years. More than 90 per cent of American companies have adopted a risk management policy, compared with 84 per cent in the UK. Eight out of ten companies in the Benelux region and in France place responsibility with a main board director, the survey found.



Squalls ahead: Gillian Shephard faces opposition over plans to cut councils

Unions to fight for wages councils

By OUR INDUSTRIAL STAFF

TRADES unions are to launch a campaign in Brighton today against government plans to abolish the wages councils, on the eve of the Conservative party conference.

The Trades Union Congress has issued a warning that Gillian Shephard, the employment secretary, is expected to announce their abolition in her speech on Thursday.

The move has infuriated unions and low pay pressure groups. The TUC said the removal of the councils could push thousands of people below the poverty line.

The Low Pay Unit believes that if the 26 councils are abolished, as expected in the next Employment bill, pay and working conditions will deteriorate in Britain's lowest-paid jobs.

Chris Pond, LPU director, said that with the removal of the wages councils, combined with the effect of recession on demand, "people will find further deterioration in conditions of employment". He said: "It will set in train a further wage cutting spiral. It will widen the gap between men's and women's pay."

LPU figures last month showed 10 million workers in Britain are earning less than the European decency threshold, that is two out of five workers. Women's jobs are worst paid, with 51 per cent of women in full-time work earning less than the £207.13 a week decency threshold.

The councils set the minimum wage for workers in low-paid jobs including the retail, catering, hairdressing and clothes manufacturing industries.

Sterling faces more turmoil

By ANATOLE KALETSKY, ECONOMICS EDITOR

SIGNS are that interest rates in Germany and the rest of Europe may soon start to ease and take some pressure off sterling this week, but most dealers expect the pound to suffer another bad day today.

It fell 5 pence against the dollar on Friday in response to fears of political disarray in the government, as well as on disappointment that the American Federal Reserve Board and the Bundesbank both kept their interest rates unchanged.

But there were strong indications that the Bundesbank Council meeting on Friday in Schwerin, eastern Germany, had seriously considered the need for lower rates both in Germany and the rest of Europe. Helmut Schlesinger, the Bundesbank president, stated after the meeting that money market interest rates would be kept below 9 per cent, despite the higher official lombard rate of 9.5 per cent.

According to some well-informed analysts this was intended as a clear hint to German industry, as well as other European countries, that interest rates were firmly on the way down. However, many Bundesbank council members apparently believe it would be inappropriate to announce a cut in the official lombard and discount rates until the tensions with Germany's ERM partners have died down. The anxiety about appearing to bow to foreign pressure would probably ex-

clude any move in official rates at the next council meeting, due to be held the day before the October EC summit in Birmingham. But a further slight easing in market interest rates in Germany could occur even before that.

Another ERM realignment could well be the trigger for a sharper reduction in German interest rates, perhaps even before October 16. Over the weekend Carlos Solchaga, the Spanish finance minister, said that a general ERM realignment, designed to reduce interest rates was needed and that the search for a solution would have to begin before October 16.

French bankers have also told the government that the present high level of overnight rates would not be sustainable for much longer.

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CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.7190 (+0.0090)
German mark
2.4332 (-0.0997)
Exchange index
811 (-1.8)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
1852.5 (-61.5)
FT-SE 100
2549.7 (-51.3)
New York Dow Jones
3200.61 (-49.71)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave
17324.07 (-1070.69)

Clinton aims to target foreign firms on unpaid tax

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

BILL Clinton, the presidential candidate now being backed by more American businessmen than any Democrat since Jimmy Carter in the mid-1970s, has proposed a \$10 billion crackdown on foreign companies to collect allegedly unpaid taxes.

If elected, he would use the money to help balance the budget and pay for reforms in education and the health service.

Mr Clinton said in a speech recently: "Foreign companies coming to America have gone up hugely in the last ten years and their taxes have gone down because they have been evading their fair share."

The Internal Revenue Service estimates that 73 per cent of foreign-controlled corporations paid no US income tax in 1989.

Forty per cent of returns from 13 electronic distributors showed that, despite sales of \$30 billion, they were not liable for tax at all.

In 1985, 17 foreign-controlled companies paid \$1 billion in tax on income of \$16.7 billion. By 1989, while income had quadrupled to \$63.6 billion, tax payments had fallen by almost \$600 million.

Governor Clinton's tax attack plan is seen as part of his "level playing field" policy for American corporations to help them to compete with foreign companies.

He has attracted endorsements for his election from large numbers of businessmen and some defectors from President Bush.

Three meetings arranged to set out his message to businessmen in Chicago, New York and San Francisco were oversubscribed, and Mr Clinton's campaign recently released a list of 400 executives who have pledged personal

support for the Democrats. Among them are Archibald Cox, president and chief executive of First Boston; Joseph Cullman, former chairman of Philip Morris; Richard Fisher, chairman of Morgan Stanley; Joseph Flom, senior partner at Skadden Arps Meagher & Flom; Robert Haas, chairman and chief executive of Levi Strauss; John Bryan, chairman of Sara Lee; Paul Allaire, chairman and chief executive of Xerox; Reuben Mark, chairman, president and chief executive of Colgate-Palmolive; Frank Wells, chief executive of Walt Disney; Jonathan Fisch, president of Loews Hotels; John Young, chief executive of Hewlett-Packard; Ben Rosen, chief executive of Compaq Computer; and John Sculley, who heads Apple Computer.

Recent surveys still show that the majority of businessmen support President Bush. Of the chief executives of the top 100 US companies, 39 have given a total of \$45,000 to Mr Bush.

Mr Clinton has received only two donations totalling \$1,500. But in the past two months, gamblers from London to Las Vegas have dramatically shortened the odds on a Clinton victory. And Wall Street is becoming nervous.

On Friday, the Dow Jones industrial index staged its second largest one-day fall this year after disappointing unemployment figures, no cut in interest rates and fears of poor third-quarter profit figures due out this month.

The news increases pressure on Mr Bush to produce an economic miracle with less than four weeks to polling day.

Analysts say a Clinton victory is not factored into the market and could cut the index by a further 10 per cent over the next six months.



Battle of Trafalgar: Sir Nigel and Sir Eric prepare to repel Hongkong boarders

Trafalgar goes on bid alert

By MATTHEW BOND IN LONDON AND LULU YU IN HONG KONG

SIR Nigel Brookes and Sir Eric Parker, the two knights at the helm of Trafalgar House, will this week attempt to put their differences behind them as they unite to repel boarders from Hongkong Land.

Although Hongkong Land is only seeking a 29.9 per cent stake in the company, the Trafalgar board is on full bid alert. Since the dawn raid on Thursday that scooped the Hong Kong company a 14.9 per cent stake, the Trafalgar board has met every day. These meetings, it is understood, were planned before the controversy blew up over the weekend over Trafalgar's accounting policies.

A circular will be dispatched to Trafalgar shareholders this

week, probably tomorrow, explaining why Hongkong Land's 85p-a-share tender offer significantly undervalues Trafalgar's worth. Shareholders will have to make up their mind quickly. The Hongkong Land offer closes on Friday. If the Hongkong offer is even partly successful, Sir Nigel would have little choice but to invite one or two directors to join the board.

Shareholders will also be looking for firm indications of Trafalgar's future strategy. For some months there has been persistent speculation that the company planned to sell either its Ritz hotel group or its Cunard shipping business, or both. To date, the company has made no official

comment on either suggestion. The problems relating to last year's purchase of Davy Corporation also need to be addressed. Sir Nigel and Sir Eric have disagreed about many things, but in response to Hongkong Land, they will be required to act as one.

Meanwhile, Nigel Rich, in Hong Kong, has shown his flair as chairman of the Noble House. Hongkong Land's dawn swoop on Trafalgar House was hailed as a well-timed buy into an ill-managed, undervalued company. It is the Jardine Matheson group's biggest foray into the recessionary British market.

Mr Rich, Jardines' managing director, is not known as an aggressive predator. Businessmen and analysts describe him as a solid, smart executive completely loyal to the Kewick family, which founded the group nearly 140 years ago. The 47-year-old taipan succeeded Brian Powers, the high-flying American who lasted only six months with Jardines. In 1989 and has since placed the group firmly in a position of growth and acquisition.

He has moved cautiously, however, piling up cash from property sales when the Hong Kong market became too expensive, before eyeing opportunities elsewhere.

Shares in Euro Disney fall below issue price

By MARTIN WALLER
DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

SHARES in Euro Disneyland are expected to come under further pressure this week as the stock market worries about more bad news from the theme park east of Paris.

The company is negotiating all-important prices for next summer season with tour operators but is denying reports that the talks are not going well.

The shares tumbled throughout last week, from 948p at Monday's opening to 820p at Friday's close, with 68p of the damage done on Friday alone. They are now below the 1989 issue price for only the second time — the first came this summer, on the issue of a gloomy report from an American broking house.

Euro Disneyland's prospects have not been helped by the turmoil on currency markets. Falls in the value of sterling and the lira will take a toll on the number of expected visitors. Last week's share falls were exacerbated by a report in *La Tribune de l'Economie*, a French financial newspaper, that the number of visitors on September 30, the last day of Euro Disneyland's financial year and coincidentally a holiday for French schoolchildren, was particularly poor, at 7,300. This was denied by the company, which said that September had generally been a good month and in line with expectations. Brokers in London were in agreement, estimating about 15,000 visitors.

But *La Tribune* said that Euro Disneyland had embarked on an urgent study on how the public viewed the project and was planning extra publicity in the press. Nicholas de Schonen, the company's chief spokesman, denied any special activity but said that the share price was easily affected by rumours.

Nigel Reed, leisure analyst at Paribas in London, thinks the park saw 6.8 million visitors from April 12, when it opened, to the end of last month and is set for 9.4 million in the first full year, a far cry from the 11 million forecast before the recession took hold.

He thinks Euro Disneyland will be reporting net losses of as much as Fr 300 million when the 1991-2 figures are unveiled in mid-November, rising to Fr 650 million for 1992-3, which will include the less profitable winter trade for the first time.

Mr Reed says: "With the asset value half the share price, I think there's still considerable downside in the shares."

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Linx strengthens board ahead of market debut

INSTITUTIONAL presentations begin this week for Linx Printing Technologies, the manufacturer of continuous ink-jet printers, which will make its stock market debut this month. In the run-up to the flotation, via a share placing, Linx has strengthened its board by appointing Michael Moore, the chairman of Tomlins, as a non-executive director.

The placing, which is being handled by Morgan Grenfell, is expected to value Linx at about £35 million, assuming its shares command the same rating as Domino Printing Sciences, its principal competitor. In the year to end-June, Linx made pre-tax profits of £1.6 million on turnover of £10.5 million, more than three times the profit and sales it was achieving two years ago. The Huntingdon-based company makes machines that can mark a wide range of food and pharmaceutical items with sell-by dates and batch codes. Its machines allow virtually any shape or surface to be marked with an appropriate code. Derek Harris, the chairman, founded the company in 1986, and already it is thought to have a 10 per cent share of the world market.

Ten vie for Lloyd's seat

ALFRED Doll-Steinberg, chairman of the Gooda Walker Action Group of Lloyd's names and one of the most prominent dissident members of Lloyd's, is one of ten candidates for the one external seat on the ruling Council of Lloyd's that will have to be filled for 1993. Other candidates include David James, the company doctor and chairman of the Dan-Air parent company Davies & Newman, and Andy Ripley, the former England rugby international. Four internal member seats are also due to fall vacant at the year-end. The ten candidates for the posts include David Rowland, who must be elected in order to be eligible to serve as chairman of Lloyd's next year. He has already been nominated for the position by David Coleridge, the current chairman.

MMI decision soon

MORE than 500 local authorities in Britain will this week learn the fate of MMI, their main insurer, which stopped accepting new business last week. A company statement is due on Wednesday, when the outcome of talks about the transfer of its business to other insurers is expected to be announced. The personal lines business, which contributes about a third of group premiums, is the most likely part to be preserved intact. The local authority accounts, which make up more than half the group's business and suffered huge losses over liability and arson claims last year, will prove difficult to transfer. MMI is likely to seek agreement with its creditors to establish a scheme of arrangement, allowing an orderly winding down of its affairs and a higher percentage payout to claimants than would be possible in a liquidation.

Loss expected at Stora

STORA, Europe's largest forest products company, is today expected to disclose big losses in interim figures for the first eight months of this year. Analysts expect losses of 350 million to 400 million kronor for the May-to-August period. In the same period last year the company showed a Kr162 million (£17.5 million) profit. Lars-Ake Heijgasson, the Swedish company's president, said last week he expects Swedish government moves to cut industry's costs, saving Stora Kr175 million next year. He also revealed plans to cut the company's costs by Kr1 billion in 1993, a further Kr1 billion the next year and intensify its focus on core businesses. The current programme of cost cutting is on target to pare costs by Kr2 billion by the end of this year.

Buyouts at six-year low

MANAGEMENT buyouts have dropped to their lowest level for six years, KPMG Peat Marwick reports. There were only 12 buyouts worth more than £10 million in the third quarter of 1992 compared with 15 in the previous quarter. The total value of the buyouts in the July-September period was £298 million, down from £550 million in the April-June period. Chris Beresford, of KPMG, says: "Managements are still keen to buy out companies, but are being put off by the unrealistic prices still being set by many vendors."

Swedes use pressure from currency markets to accelerate reforms

THE centre right government in Sweden has turned the adversity of recent currency market turmoil to its advantage on the economic policy front with the support of the Social Democrat opposition, according to Anne Wibbe, the finance minister.

The Swedes' determined defence of the krona last month appeared last week to have succeeded, allowing interest rates to come down.

As foreign exchange market pressure eased, following Thursday's all party package to cut industry's costs, the Swedish central bank on Friday dropped its key overnight lending rate to the commercial banks by four points to 20 per cent.

In September, this rate was pushed up to 500 per cent to let the markets know the government was not going to devalue or unpeg the krona from the ecu.

Mrs Wibbe, in an interview with *The Times*, said the intense pressure emanating from the currency market was used to accelerate government plans for adjusting domestic policy. In the face of severe pressures similar to those that forced Britain and Italy to leave the exchange-rate mechanism (ERM), Sweden has relied on its own resourcefulness rather than an international network of supportive agreements.

Concerned that its high interest rate shield would intensify the recession gripping Sweden, the government on September 20 secured opposition support for an agreement to shear Kr40 billion (£4.33 billion) a year off the budget deficit. The deal, to run until 1994, a year after the next general election, provides for deep cuts into the generous welfare state system built up under



Air of authority: Anne Wibbe, finance minister

decades of social democratic rule. As Mrs Wibbe explained, the September 20 package to reduce the non-cyclical element of the budget deficit was "not good enough" to assuage market doubts about the government's determination to stick to its policy.

The follow-up package agreed last Wednesday will, from January, slash 5 per centage points off the payroll tax paid by industry, cutting 18 billion kronor off government revenues. The shortfall will be made up by higher VAT and

reductions of tax-free allowances. Holidays were also cut by two days a year for many private sector employees.

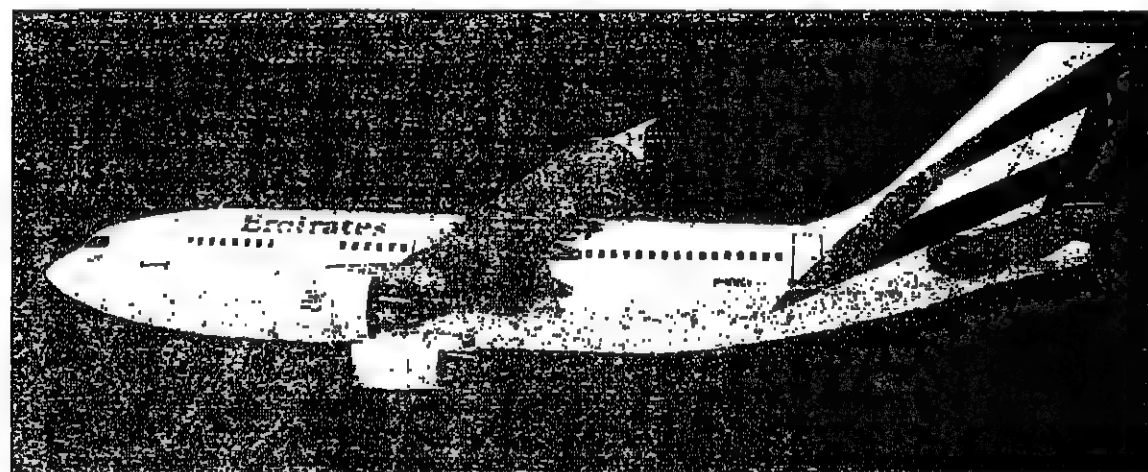
Mrs Wibbe denied that this represented the beginning of the end of Sweden's welfare state. She said Swedes liked most of the welfare state system, but the excesses of the 1980s had produced an imbalance between private and public sector. "We have to reduce public expenditure," she said, noting, however, that she would have advocated more spending in the depression of the

1930s. Daughter of a Nobel Prize winning economist and an accomplished economist in her own right, Mrs Wibbe has an air of authority on matters economic. Fully aware of the short-term damage a strong krona and higher personal taxation could do to the economy, she nevertheless sees no room for delaying necessary adjustment. "Putting decisions off means that the decisions must then be tougher," she said.

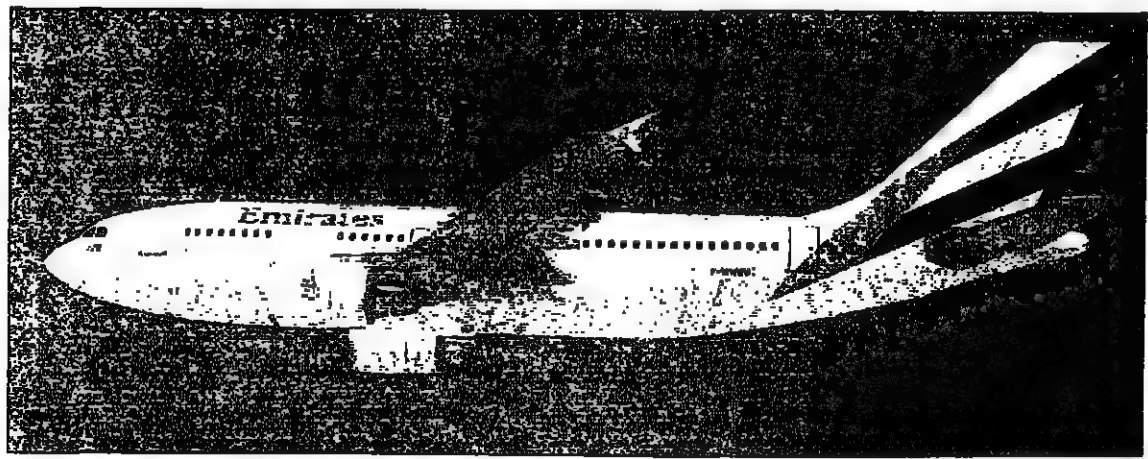
The aim of current Swedish policy was to be a member of the monetary "hard core" in Europe at the earliest opportunity. The ecu peg is just a first step, she said. Sweden hopes to join the European Community in 1995.

Convinced that it takes more than talk to persuade markets, she believes Sweden needs "actions, not just words" to get its message across. Political consensus on exchange-rate policy was also important. "We have used crisis to speed up internal adjustment," Mrs Wibbe said. Political consensus has allowed Kr70 billion to be cut from public expenditure in an overall economy of Kr1,400 billion.

With the economy expected to shrink another 1 per cent this year and show no growth next year, the government is aiming to return Sweden to annual growth of about 3 per cent, better than anything seen in the 1980s. Unemployment is expected to rise to what, for Sweden, is an alarming level of 6 per cent next year. Mrs Wibbe expects political consensus to favour tough policies to prevent high unemployment becoming firmly established. "We will push the unemployed into jobs," she said. Unemployment benefit is now available for only one year.



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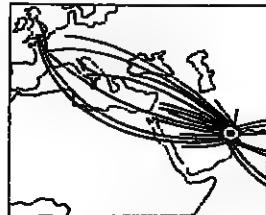


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COMMENT

First auguries of bids to come

Takeover bids have been few and far between recently, not least because banks with burnt fingers have not been falling over themselves to supply the cash and there has been a relatively high failure rate among bids based mainly on an exchange of shares. This atmosphere could rapidly change if and when a recovery starts and bidders are prepared to take a more optimistic view than the stock market. Several big and aggressive companies have, like Hongkong Land, plenty of cash. Other rated corporate names such as RTZ or BTR can still command the attention of lenders and underwriters.

Different perceptions of risk are one of the keys to takeover activity and there is no doubt that, after so many shocks, liquidity worries and collapses, stock market values are still heavily influenced by perceived risk. Cyclical stocks may have come back into fashion during the post-devaluation rise of about 10 per cent in share prices, but the all-share index has lagged behind the FT-SE 100 index of blue chips of late.

Company chairmen and especially driven entrepreneurs such as Alan Sugar, perennially feel that their company's share price is too low. At such moments, when outsiders demand a bigger discount for risk, this is particularly the case. Cheap bids have a better chance of success, although they also give the target company an opportunity to dispel generalised investor fears. There are many reasons for this distrust of stock market valuations by directors, one being that they have a higher opinion of their own management skills than outside observers. One of the most important is that they think their company has some definable value in isolation.

In practice, companies have two quite different valuations. Their stock market value, published every day, reflects their relative ranking in the vast spectrum of financial investments, including not only all other quoted companies but foreign shares, bonds, government securities, property and the returns available on cash. Their second value, which often surfaces only during takeover bids, is as collections of business assets. That valuation reflects the alternative cost to other companies of investing, from scratch, to build those assets or some other business yielding similar expected returns, or the alternative cost of gaining the market share held by the target company. There is no particular reason why the two valuations should always coincide.

The tendency for stock market values to be lower than one company's value to another can be most marked during periods of high interest rates and during the recovery phase of economic cycles. High interest rates depress prices of financial assets by reducing the value of an anticipated income stream relative to cash. By contrast, high interest rates greatly increase the perceived risk of greenfield developments or research and development relative to a business that is up and running and earning more predictable profits. Although the value of business assets is depressed too, buying another company becomes relatively more attractive than expanding organically.

In the upswing of a recession, stock market values and price earnings ratios allow for profit recovery but are often cautious. Investors who have seen profits dive in the downswing want to see the recovery before they believe it, especially after such a long recession as this. The credibility of managements, such as that of Trafalgar House, may also have fallen drastically as a result of performance during the recession. Forecasts of dramatic improvements in profitability might well be received with considerable scepticism. When it comes, the period between the start of recovery and the time when big profit rises are actually achieved and reported, will therefore be a phase of maximum opportunity for bidders that have real muscle and have kept their reputation intact.

Anatole Kaletsky believes the prime minister should remember the motto of the SAS: who dares, wins

Will John Major allow the political and economic drift to continue? Or will he finally accept responsibility for the economy instead of blaming the financial markets, his predecessors or the Bundesbank? The prime minister's experience will tempt him towards the first option. He does not seem to like making decisions. In most of the great events of his career — ERM entry, the Gulf war, the toppling of Mrs Thatcher — he has been an almost passive participant, executing or responding to decisions made by others.

But the devaluation of sterling may turn out to be the last responsibility conveniently lifted from Mr Major's shoulders. If at the Conservative conference this week he continues to lead from the rear in his habitual manner, his career could soon be over. If, on the other hand, he takes a risk and defies his advisers, he has an excellent chance of emerging triumphant from the apparent disasters of recent weeks. Without some risk there can be no reward.

The risk he must take is clear. He must announce and begin to implement a new economic policy that will end the recession, control inflation and restore confidence among businessmen and consumers. The risk is that such a policy would be hard to sell politically and would jeopardise confidence in the pound. The policy must have three components.

First, interest rates must be cut immediately to 7 or 8 per cent simply to prevent business and consumer confidence collapsing in tandem with the pound. The second component, which must be announced simultaneously, is a new anti-inflationary policy based on sharp cuts in government borrowing, and a freeze on public sector pay, as well as indicative targets for various definitions of the domestic money supply. To say that next year's public spending targets will be met (which is the best the Treasury is offering at present) is not good enough. As part of a package sweetened by popular cuts in interest rates — first to 7 per cent and then to 5 per cent — the government could go much further. Not only public sector pay but other sacred cows, including defence spending, mortgage tax relief and indexation of non-means-tested

state pensions, could be dragged into the political arena.

If necessary, the government must also be willing to raise income tax, especially on the higher paid. One way to do this would be to suspend the indexation of personal tax allowances, which would also send a firm signal of the government's determination to stop inflation. Another measure with symbolic and fiscal benefits would be for the Treasury to stop issuing long-term fixed interest bonds, and offer index-linked gilts instead.

Ruthlessness in these areas should be matched not only by lower interest rates, but also with a more constructive and generous approach to public investment and poverty relief. These would defend Mr Major not only against charges of deepening the recession but also of Thatcherite insensitivity to the needy and the economy's long-term growth.

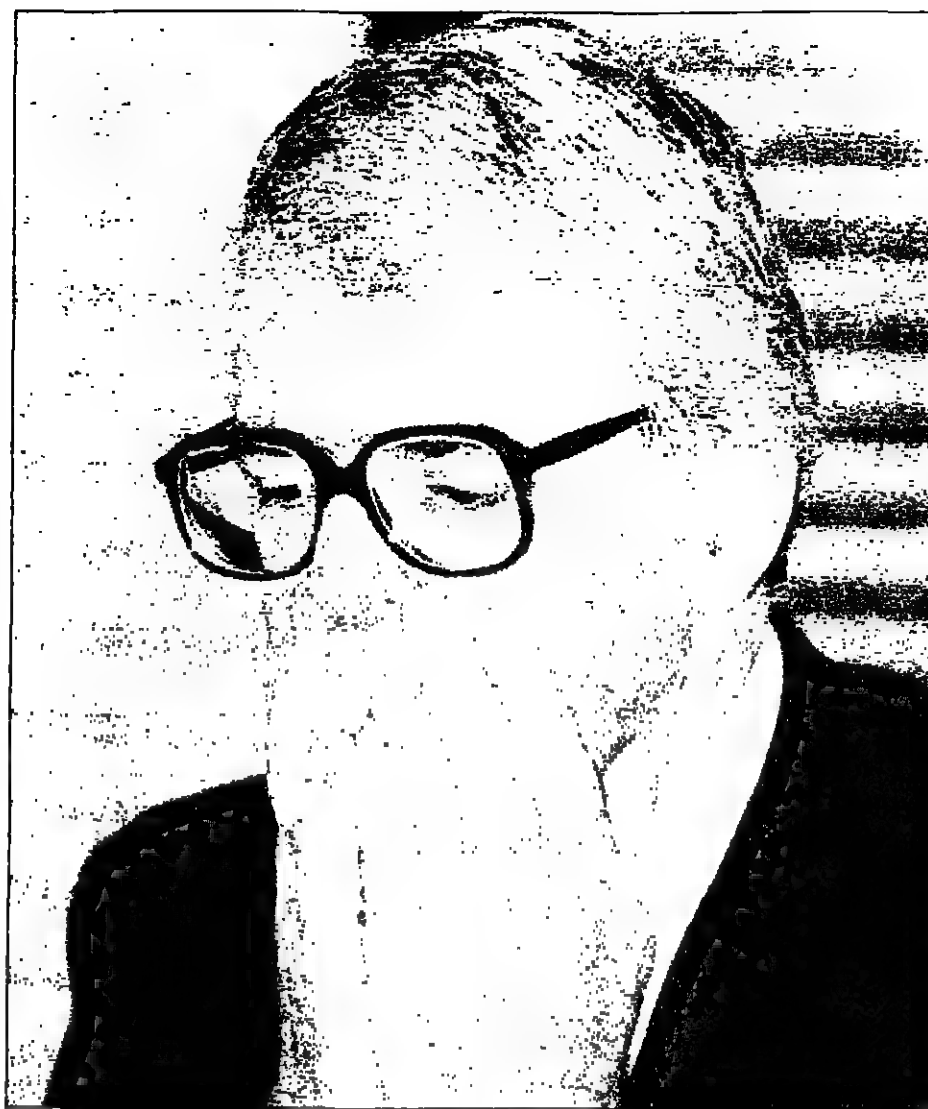
Third, Mr Major must give an unequivocal commitment to cut interest rates aggressively further, as and when the targets on public sector spending, pay and monetary growth, are met. To get inflation-adjusted interest rates below 3 per cent would be a good objective.

A balanced package like this would revive the economy and offer the best possible reassurance against inflation, as well as being politically saleable. But none of the measures on their own would have any chance of success. Cuts in public spending, without corresponding cuts in interest rates, would be politically and economically disastrous. Lower interest rates without tough action on spending and pay would be equally damaging; without strong fiscal signals, promises to control inflation would lack credibility, whatever cocktails of money supply and currency targets the Treasury devised.

Naturally, Treasury officials who worshipped before the ERM totem oppose such a package. They think sharp cuts in interest rates would undermine the pound. This possibility cannot be excluded, but the risk is probably not great. International confidence is already at such a low ebb that sterling is approaching undervalued levels. More importantly, the investment community has realised that the pound's value will now be set by the demand

ECONOMIC VIEW

It's make your mind up time for that nice, indecisive Mr Major



Decisions, decisions: John Major should opt for the hands-on approach

for British goods and real assets. Actions that boost the real profitability of British industry will bolster demand for sterling.

Ten days ago, I was asked by one of the world's most successful investment funds for my views on the government's strategy after the devaluation. I said a new policy might be built around the kind of package of cuts in interest rates, public spending and wages outlined above. There was no indication the government would back such a policy and some evidence that it would be opposed by those

who had inspired Mr Major's blind faith in the ERM. But ten days ago, the ERM cabal appeared discredited and the chances of a new economic policy seemed good. Betting on this, the fund bought tens of millions of pounds worth of British shares.

This reaction to Britain's policy options was quite typical, judging by conversations with investors around the world and, more importantly, by the behaviour of the financial markets since September 16. When interest rates were reduced to 9 per cent and futures prices began to dis-

count a further full point cut, the pound and stock market rallied. Last week, as ministers turned away from the economy and hinted it would take months, rather than days, for monetary and fiscal policy to be reordered, hopes of another cut in base rate receded and the pound duly collapsed.

Mr Major must realise that nobody can say for certain whether the pound would rise or fall in response to a sharp cut in interest rates and a new policy package. But, at least he can

now discount completely the advice of his Treasury officials. What can be said with confidence is that failure to act quickly could condemn both the pound and Mr Major to bottomless decline.

If there is no cut in interest rates soon, business and consumer confidence will collapse, with the active encouragement of Michael Heseltine and others who are presenting devaluation as a disaster. There will be a new slide into recession, another jump in public borrowing and a fiscal crisis. By next year, the only possible solution left will be to reignite inflation — and that decision will probably be left for Mr Major's successor.

Ironically, the more Mr Major tries to fight inflation by propping up the pound with high interest rates, the more certain will be his eventual surrender. But the irony is even more delicious. It is already becoming clear how the next inflationary boom might be justified. Just as Nigel Lawson deflected attention from his inflationary policies by shadowing the German mark, Mr Heseltine or Kenneth Clarke would be able to justify a massive inflationary boom. They would simply have to rejoin the ERM at a time when the German economy was in recession and the pound was severely depressed — exactly the picture likely to be presented by the second half of next year, if British economic policies continue to drift.

Until this weekend I found it hard to understand why previously wet Euro-enthusiasts in the cabinet were so intent on warning of the inflationary dangers of devaluation. A possible motivation is now becoming clear. If Mr Major commits political suicide by keeping interest rates high in a vain attempt to defend sterling, the Euro-enthusiasts will be able to blame the Major-Lamont devaluation for the continuing recession. Whichever of them succeeded Mr Major would then offer ERM re-entry as a panacea — and as a licence to inflate out of the recession in the best Lawson style.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Tipping the wink

THE City has a new world champion. Last week, without fanfare, Geoffrey Myers, 24, an economist from the Office of Fair Trading, unseated American Larry Kahn, the reigning world tiddly winks champion, in a closely matched contest, by winning 25 to 24. The contest was held in Boston, Massachusetts, and Myers has already been challenged by another American, with his first defending match to be held in Britain in November. "I am very pleased," says Myers, "but when you remember that it is tiddly winks, you don't get too carried away." He is not about to turn professional. "There's not much money in tiddly winks so I think I'll have to say put," Myers, employed by the government's economic service, is likely to be moved to the Department of Trade and Industry in 12 months' time. He competes in about seven tournaments a year, but practices irregularly. "I actually find it quite relaxing just flicking a few winks," he says. Despite Myers' modesty, his achievement is being lavishly celebrated in one corner of the Square Mile. John "Fingers" Fingleton, larger than life PR man with College Hill Associates, is his cousin. "We've never had a champion in the family before," Fingers enthuses, "except perhaps for gourdmandery."

Iron-man Petras

AS the World Corporate Games in London ended last night, star of the event was Pe-



trus Juniaalonis, a Lithuanian. His team almost failed to make it until they were given free accommodation after a plea in the City Diary. Dev Annand, of Lawrence Wharf in Rotherhithe, put up the team and Juniaalonis, 57, astonished everyone by running all the way from Rotherhithe to Battersea to compete in the road running event. He then dashed back to Rotherhithe for his bike before cycling to Thorpe Park, Surrey, to finish second in the cycling final. Juniaalonis competed in the Peace Race for the Soviet Union when he was 38. Thirty years on, he is still doing his bit and is now the official responsible for developing sport in Lithuania. Other competitors say it is a job for which the energetic Juniaalonis is eminently suited.

Indian caper

THE Middleton clan seems to be popping up everywhere. At BZW, at Lloyd's of London and now at James Capel. Russell Middleton, 45, who, given

his Australian heritage, is not knowingly related to the other two, has just joined James Capel to establish and run an Indian department. Previously with Perpetual Chescor, the Pall Mall-based merchant bank, and before that at ANZ, his bullish comments about the Indian market, reported in this column two years ago, have proved well founded. "I have just set up a representative office for James Capel in Bombay and the international stock market there is opening up fantastically well. They have taken guidance from London and New York. It's a bit like Australia was in the 1970s and Japan in the 1950s. India will become a market the institutions just have to be in." India represents a new area of coverage for James Capel and Middleton says he moved to Capel because he needed "additional muscle" to cope with the speed of developments in India.

Toytown goodies

TONY Good, one of the founding fathers of public relations, seems to have entered his second childhood. Good, 59, still operates successfully in the world of financial PR, these days running the Good Consultancy, with clients such as Linklaters and Sun Life. In his spare time, however, he and Charlotte Smallman, his long-time girlfriend, have built up a thriving children's toy business. They own and operate Frog Hollow, a toy shop in Victoria Grove, Kensington — open seven days a week and used occasionally by the Princess of Wales — Frog Frolics, a party shop in Ifield Road, Fulham, and a toy-by-

mail-order business based in what was once a branch of Barclays Bank in Pewsey, Wiltshire. Group turnover is now in excess of £500,000 a year and Good says: "I'm just the part-time chairman, I throw in the odd idea." One of those is to have a prize draw for children visiting the shop this week, to encourage them to participate in national children's book week. "Yes, I do enjoy testing all the toys, but the section I enjoy most is the children's sweets section."

Russian PR

DESPITE the tepid response to Boris Yeltsin's privatisation vouchers, plans are being laid to set up St Petersburg's first financial PR firm. Simon Preston, chairman of Financial Public Relations in London, has recruited Nikolai Ryabov, an academic, to be his man in Russia. "We don't expect anything dramatic, but we want someone there to keep us posted," Preston says. Immediate plans are for Ryabov to do some detective work. In 1957, Preston was one of three Cambridge graduates who became the first English tourists to enter Russia by car since the revolution. Their journey from Brest to Yalta via Moscow in a Morris Minor was filmed by Intourist and Preston is anxious to locate the film again. "My son Adam wants to retrace our steps and make another film, but it all depends on us getting hold of the original. I think it would be a good exercise for Anglo-Russian relations, so I've asked our man to see what he can do."

CAROL LEONARD

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CBI calls together sides over rent spiral

By Rodney Hobson

THE Confederation of British Industry is calling together landlords and tenants today in an attempt to end the spiral of rising rents and empty commercial properties.

At the meeting, Littlewoods will attempt to present a united front of fellow retailers against rent rises.

The CBI initiative is being taken with Davies Arnold Cooper, a firm of solicitors in the City of London. John Pollard, a consultant on company law issues at the CBI, says: "Landlords and institutional investors are suffering from the slump in property values and the bankruptcy of tenants and they cannot afford to ignore the losses they are making. As the recession continues and the property market looks a long way from recovery, it is vital some consensus acceptable to landlords, tenants and investors is found."

The CBI will hold the conference at its headquarters in Centre Point in central London. It will be chaired by Keith Saunders, director of property at WH Smith.

Littlewoods called retailers together last week. Delegates have since been considering the issues raised and intend to issue an agreed statement ahead of the CBI talks.

A Littlewoods spokesman said: "Despite the crisis in the economy, the recession in the high street and the surfeit of retail premises, the property companies blindly impose the rent increases built into leases regardless of the realities of the market place. Now the major retailers demand realism."

The row over commercial property leases has been coming to a head over the past three months since two retailers, Oliver Group and Etam, formed the Property Market Reform Group to campaign for a change in the law.

Among its aims is to have upward-only rent reviews declared void and to abolish clauses holding the original tenant responsible if the lease is passed on to a company that subsequently goes bankrupt.

The reform group claims that Clarks Shoes, Dolland & Aitchison, the opticians, and Thomsons, the chocolate retailer, have joined the campaign. It will be holding a dinner at the Conservative party conference to drum up support in parliament.

Despite the collapse in property values and the over supply of offices, landlords have been determined to stick to the rent increase-only clauses, pre-

fering to offer initial rent-free periods and other incentives rather than concede the principle of falling rents.

Ian Oliver, chairman of the reform group and a former chairman of Oliver Group, welcomed the Littlewoods initiative: "We need very strong representation from major multiples. This cannot do anything but good."

Mr Oliver says that taking a rent review to arbitration is often throwing good money after bad. Arbitrators are limited by law in what evidence they can consider. Landlords can produce evidence of higher rents on similar premises but evidence of lower rents is unobtainable because landlords build confidentiality clauses into leases.

Mr Oliver says: "Shops that have gone out of business cannot be mentioned in evidence. We should have a value to interpret what those shops would achieve in the open market. It needs only one or two aggressive retailers to set the rent for everyone else. There is no logic to that. On the same argument, if one house in a road sells at a certain price all the other houses in the street should sell at the same price. A lot of householders would be only too pleased if that were true."

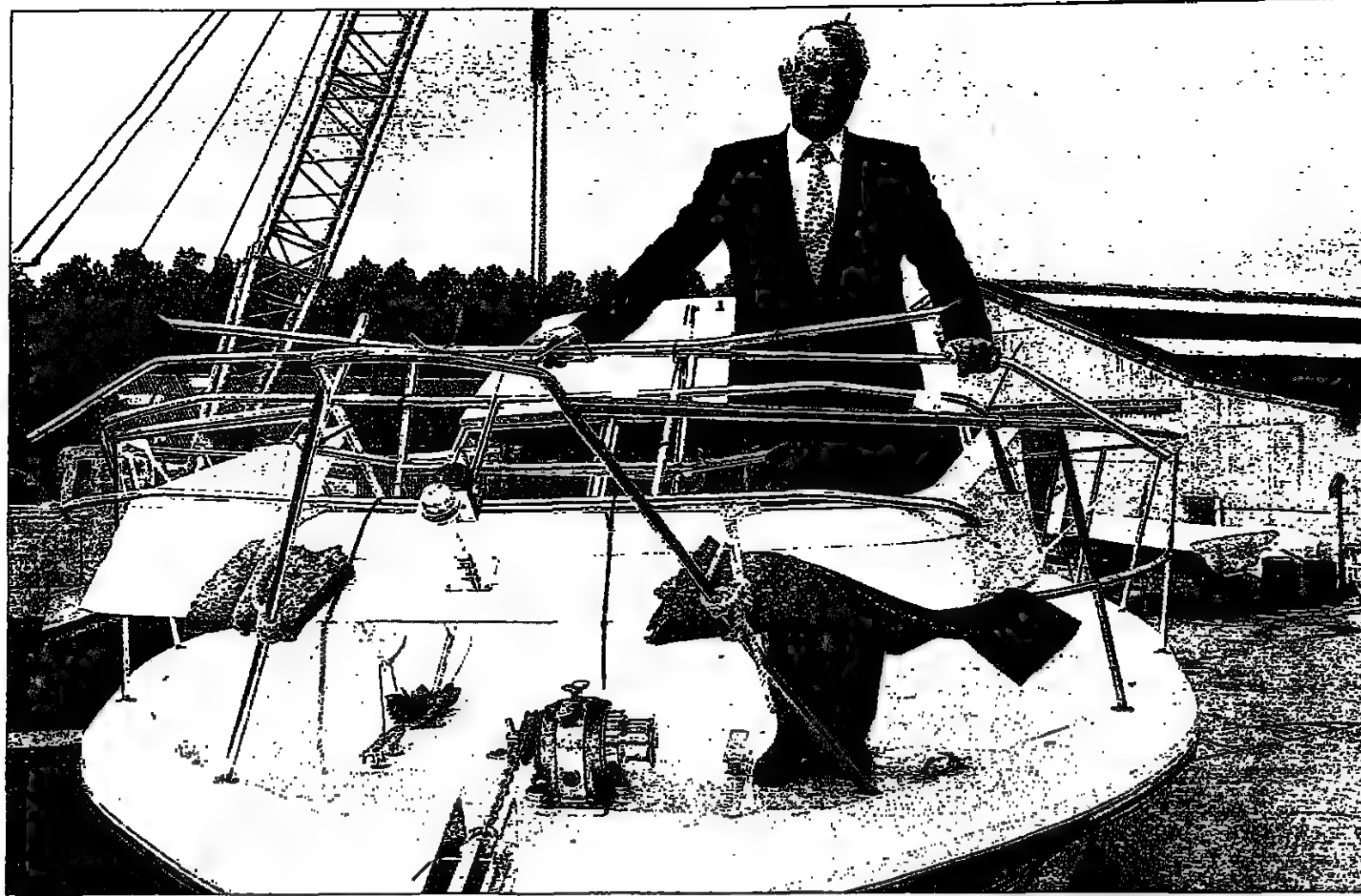
"I fear privately owned shops will go. Tourist cities such as Chester and York used to be full of interesting little shops. Now they are just like Oxford Street." He wants tribunals to replace arbitrators.

However, cases of tenants fighting back are cropping up. A victory against rising rents is claimed by a property consultant that fought an 87.5 per cent rise demanded for a shop in Chelsea. An independent arbitrator ruled that there should be no increase even though other shops in the area had been let at a higher rent.

LSM Partners, the consultant, fought the rent demand on behalf of Lustre, a cleaning company leasing a 1,283 sq ft shop in King's Road for £24,000 a year.

Moss Bros also went to arbitration over a proposed rent of £235 per sq ft for its Cecil Gee shop in James Street, Covent Garden, and came away with £185 per sq ft.

Robin Mitchell, a director of de Morgan, the property consultants representing Moss Bros, said: "We were able to demonstrate how this unit was clearly of less value than most of its neighbours who had agreed higher levels."



Keeping watch: Sam Newington, the chairman of Fairline Boats, whose shares have tumbled from 590p to 145p over the past year

Fairline sails into turbulent waters

SMALLER COMPANIES

TURBULENT waters have rocked Fairline Boats, the leisure craft manufacturer headed by Sam Newington, whose shares have fallen relentlessly over the past year.

Having traded at 590p only 12 months ago, the shares have slumped to 145p as investors braced themselves for bad news after September's year-end.

Barclays de Zoete Wedd, broker to Fairline, had expected the company to break even. Now, it expects losses of £250,000 before tax, compared with profits of £3 million in the previous 12 months, with the total dividend falling from 21p a share to 10.5p.

Not surprisingly, it has not proved easy selling boats priced between £50,000 and £750,000 in this sort of market. Efforts to contain costs, including a 10 per cent cut in the workforce and a wage freeze since April, ensured a return to profitability in the second half but came too late to prevent Fairline dipping into the red at the full year.

Net cash is expected to fall from £3.5 million at the last year-end to £500,000. BZW rates the shares a hold, underpinned by a 55 per cent discount to assets and a prospective yield of almost 10 per cent. Mark Hudson, the BZW analyst, says that although the outlook is more encouraging as a result of the

reduced cost base, there are several challenges ahead. Consumer confidence remains low and the second-hand market for boats is sluggish, affecting demand for new, high-margin products.

In addition, European VAT changes that come into effect in January may damage demand, blocking a loophole that allowed an EC national to avoid paying the tax if the boat was berthed in another EC country.

Next year, EC nationals will be liable for VAT at the rate of the country in which the boat is berthed. There is uncertainty whether a retrospective levy will apply.

The devaluation of sterling will partly offset the cost increase for continental buyers. Exports account for 65 per cent of Fairline's annual turnover and the fall in the pound gives the company a useful advantage over its European and North American competitors. At the Southampton boat show, the first of the major autumn shows, interest in larger boats was encouraging and came almost exclusively from potential overseas customers.

MARTIN BARROW

Scottish boatyard to close

By Kerry Gull

JAMES N Miller and Sons, the UK's oldest boat-building company, which operates from a yard in the East Neuk of Fife, will close next month with the loss of 46 jobs.

The yard at St Monans completed its biggest ever fishing vessel only a few days ago. Miller, which has built vessels for many countries, has always been closely involved with the fishing industry but has found itself with an empty order book.

The business, part of the John Mowlem group, has been run for the past ten years by Mike Brodie, managing director. He said: "The huge reductions in our traditional market of Scottish fishing boat building, resulting from the implementation of EEC quotas and so on, coupled with the recession, has reduced our activities to an unacceptable level. There is no sign of improvement in the near future."

Mr Brodie said there had been attempts to move into the construction of other small commercial craft. After some initial success this work had also dried up. Miller's order book was empty and employees at St Monans had recently been involved in work for the company's other yard at Broomborough in The Wirral.

City salaries show inflation threat will re-emerge

SINCE 1987, employment in stockbroking has fallen sharply. However, for those still in work, salaries remain high. Why has pay failed to respond to the level of unemployment among brokers?

First, firms cannot be sure that the unemployed brokers are of the same quality as their existing ones; indeed, the fact of their unemployment may give adverse signals of their abilities. Consequently, risk aversion leads companies to retain their existing staff. As the existing brokers know this, they need not accept pay cuts to avoid being replaced.

Second, even if the unemployed brokers are of the highest quality, there is a cost to the employer of employing them in place of an existing worker. There will be a "settling in" period during which the new employee regains the "market feel" when his or her output is depressed. The retention of the existing worker entails no such costs.

Third, a company which replaces staff with the unemployed will rapidly gain a reputation as a bad employer. This will be expensive, partly because of its loss of image with clients, partly because it will be unable to retain staff except by paying more than the "going rate", and partly because it will be unable to motivate its employees if they believe that they will be replaced. Indeed, the existence of unemployment in the City may actually have an upward effect on pay, as firms attempt to attract workers by signalling that they are "long-term players".

For all these reasons, unemployed brokers do not exert significant downward pressure on the pay of those still in work. Rather, what depresses pay is the thought that their firm may be the next to go out of business. This fear exists not when other brokers are out of work, but when the numbers out of work are increasing. When employment in broking bottoms out, this fear of job loss will diminish and even with large numbers of brokers remaining out of work — the pay of remaining em-

ployees may rise. Regrettably, the City is not unusual. The same points apply to many other trades — the building labourers on Cricklewood Broadway every morning are an exception in that their pay is directly determined by the "market forces" found in out-of-date textbooks. Consequently, it is not necessary to believe in the power of unions to think that the level of unemployment has little influence on the pay of those still in work.

This is especially true as many of the unemployed are unlikely out of work stockbrokers; they may have no skills for which there is even a potential demand, or they may live far from where there are jobs, or they may have become disenchanted with looking for work by the length of time they have spent on the dole. There is evidence that these "mismatch" problems increased in the 1980s.

The claim that "this was a good time to devalue because high unemployment will hold down wage inflation" is deeply questionable. Rather, wage inflation generally, like pay in the City, will be depressed not by the level of unemployment, but by the fear of unemployment. For the time being, the job losses announced last month will ensure that this fear will continue to depress wage settlements. However, as the recovery emerges — and last month's devaluation assuredly hastens this — the fear of unemployment will subside.

Consequently, even if unemployment is over 3 million when this happens, wage inflation may jump, possibly more than can be paid for by productivity gains. This means any further fall in inflation should be seen as the calm before the storm — not as a sign that inflation will not re-emerge. It follows that those who bought their index-linked gilts at 5 per cent real yields should hold: those who did not may still find long-term value available.

CHRIS DILLOW and MARK CLIFFE
Nomura Research
Institute Europe

REPORTING THIS WEEK

Market looks for light at end of Eurotunnel

TODAY

EUROTUNNEL will not report conventional interim results as such, but analysts hope to get a clearer picture as to where the Channel tunnel operator stands on some of the key unresolved issues that have caused volatility in the share price. One of the issues is how near — or far — Eurotunnel, which is headed by Sir Alastair Morton, is from a settlement in the dispute over cost overruns with Transmanche Link, the Anglo-French construction group building the tunnel.

This goes hand in hand with the funding issue, with questions still unanswered on the sustainability of existing funds available and the group's banking relationship.

There are still questions on how much the project will cost, the timing of completion and a more exact indication as to when the tunnel will open. At the moment, the supposed deadline of the fourth quarter of 1993 is all the City has to go on. Analysts will hope to at least receive some guidance from Eurotunnel from its first internally generated traffic and revenue forecast.

Interims: Chillingworth Corp, Eurotunnel, Kiny Little, Oriel Group, Silenbright Holdings, Sora Koppa, URS International.
Finals: Microfilm Reprographics, North American Gas Investment Trust, Welsh Industrial Investment Trust.
Economic statistics: Credit business (August); housing starts and completions (August); house renovations (second quarter).

TOMORROW

Raine Industries, the house-building group that took over Walter Lawrence earlier this year, is expected to report a 34

per cent decline in final pre-tax profits to £13.5 million (£20.3 million), according to Robert Donald at County NatWest. Earnings are forecast to slide 41 per cent to 6.2p (10.5p) a share because of an increased capital base, but the net dividend should be maintained at 6p.

Improved attendances and increased admission prices will provide a boost to gate receipts at Manchester United, although the Premier League club was knocked out of the UEFA Cup competition recently. Final pre-tax profits are likely to slip to about £5 million (£5.4 million) after net transfer expenditure of about £2.5 million (£0.8 million), according to Smith New Court, the broker.

Interims: Derwent Valley Holdings, London and Manchester Group, OS Holdings, Sappi, S&U Stores, TH City of London Trust (first quarter).
Finals: Barry Wehmiller International, Brown & Jackson, Manchester United, Rame Industries, Savage Group.
Economic statistics: Finished steel consumption and stock changes (second quarter); cyclical indicators for the UK economy (August — first estimate).

WEDNESDAY

The recessionary squeeze on consumer spending will take its toll on profits at Austin Reed Group, the clothing manufacturer and retailer. Joan D'Olier, of County NatWest, thinks Austin Reed will break even at the half-way stage, against profits of £600,000 last time. A reduced interim dividend of 2p (3p) a share is predicted.

The first half was tough for Austin Reed and sales volumes are estimated to have fallen by as much as 20 per cent, exaggerated by the absence of Robertson of Dum-

fries, the cashmere and quality knitwear manufacturer which was sold last year. Like-for-like sales are expected to be down but by about 4 per cent. August and September were thought to have been good months for clothing retailers, because of the cold weather, so there may have been a pick-up at the beginning of the second half, but a cautious statement on prospects is still likely.

Interims: Computer People Group, Gramplan Holdings, Hewdon Stuart, Ipeco, Reed (Austin) Group, Select Appointments (Holdings), Style.
Economic statistics: Overseas travel and tourism (July); advance energy statistics (August).

THURSDAY

Mike Styles at Credit Lyonnais Laing expects Bowthorpe, the electrical and electronic components group, to stage a relatively resilient performance with first-half pre-tax profits of £22.6 million (£21.3 million) Market forecasts range from £20 million

to £23 million. An interim dividend of 1.8p (1.7p) is predicted. The group will benefit from the fact that about 80 per cent of profits are generated overseas, with Germany accounting for 28 per cent of profits. The group's German exposure will benefit from sterling's recent weakness.

Istock Johnson, the building materials group, is expected to see first-half profits slide to about £5 million (£7.2 million), according to Mark Hake at Nikko, the Japanese securities house. A reduced interim dividend of 1p (2.25p) a share is predicted.

With Istock's UK operations accounting for about two-thirds of profits, the depressed conditions gripping the domestic housebuilding and construction industries will undoubtedly take their toll on the group. The US operations, which suffered an operating loss of £800,000 last time, should be back in the black. But prospects in the British market remain bleak, with no signs of improvement.

Interims: Acorn Computer Group, Bilton & Battersea, Bowthorpe, Chapetow, Racecourse, Clarkson (Horace), Country Casuals, Higgs and Hill, Istock Johnson, Tibury Douglas.
Finals: Galford, Merivale Moore, Persipor.
Economic statistics: Details of employment, unemployment, earnings, prices and other indicators; new earnings survey 1992 part B; analyses by agreement.

FRIDAY

Interims: Anglo American Gold Investment Co, Anglo American Investment Trust, Johnston Group, Lamont Holdings, Slingsby (H.C.), Ustar Television.
Finals: Goodwin.
Economic statistics: Retail prices index and tax and prices index (September).



Answers sought: Sir Alastair Morton of Eurotunnel

PHILIP PANGALOS

America threatens sanctions in oilseed dispute

FROM TOM WALKER IN BRUSSELS

UNDER growing diplomatic pressure from Washington, European Community foreign ministers, meeting in Luxembourg today and tomorrow, will throw their collective wits into reviving the moribund Uruguay round of world trade talks.

Their efforts will mark the start of an intense two weeks of negotiations between the EC and America that could at last give a definitive pointer to whether there is any hope of the round being completed before Christmas. A week on Saturday, Carla Hills, the US trade representative, will fly into Brussels with Ed Madsen, agriculture secretary, and the gloves are likely to be off.

The key to unlocking the stalemate is resolving the transatlantic dispute over subsidies paid to oilseed farmers. The Americans' message to Frans Andriessen, the EC's external relations commissioner, and Ray MacSharry, its agriculture colleague, is likely to be simple: stop encouraging production in Europe and biting into US soyabean exports, or face retaliatory trade action.

The US wants production of oilseed rape — the biggest oilcrop in the EC — to fall from its present level of about 12.5 million tons to 9.5 million tons. In Britain last year there were 1.1 million acres of the crop. Production in Britain, the third biggest oilseed rape grower after France and Germany, is at its highest level for five years, but under a new EC payments system, it is expected to drop back.

Oilseed rape is the only oilcrop in Britain, but in warmer southern Europe, sunflowers and soyabeans are also grown. The oilseeds are processed into animal feed and oils, which can be directly consumed or go into making fats such as margarine. In 1990, 6.38 million tons of soyabeans were imported in the EC, but now the market is shrinking.

US farmers claim they are losing up to \$1 billion a year because of subsidies paid to EC oilseed farmers, but the commission says Washington is ignoring the effect of other producers, such as Argentina and Brazil, on the world market. Brussels also points to the breakup of the Soviet Union, formerly a big export market for America, but now unable to buy soyabeans at world prices.

The EC has offered compensation of about £250 million to America, but that has been rejected. Mr Hills and Mr Madsen want the issue to go to a special Gatt arbitration panel. An American deadline, by which the EC should have submitted itself to the panel, came and went last week, and Washington's bluff seemed to have been called.

But the Americans have a \$1 billion hit-list of EC farm exports earmarked for retaliatory duties, and if no movement is seen from the Community over the next two weeks, the sanctions will almost certainly be imposed.

The commission is desperate to avoid a Gatt panel, because twice in the past two years just such a panel has judged the EC's subsidies system to distort trade. After the last decision, payments to oilseed farmers were changed from being determined by weight. Under the new regime, UK farmers will probably receive about £155 per acre of oilseed rape grown.

Brussels says the new system discourages intensive farming and that production will fall, but the Americans have not bought that argument.

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock	Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price	1st yld	Gr yld	Stock	Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price	1st yld	Gr yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)											
400 Fund 6% 1993	100%	98p	98	6.07	7.35	1,777 Trust 9% 2002	100%	100p	100	9.36	9.12
920 Trust 10% 1993	100%	99p	99	8.36	8.24	2,300 Trust 10% 2003	100%	100p	100	9.49	9.43
1,850 Trust 10% 1993	100%	100p	100	9.91	8.19	443 Fund 7% 1999-04	100%	100p	100	7.91	7.91
1,800 Trust 10% 1993	100%	100p	100	12.10	7.99	2,012 Corp 9% 2004	100%	101p	101	9.39	9.39
1,060 Trust 10% 1993	100%	100p	100	12.96	12.96	1,620 Trust 11% 2001-04	100%	101p	111	10.20	9.31
2,100 Trust 9% 1994	100%	100p	100	8.46	8.10	4,843 Corp 9% 2005	100%	101p	101	9.41	9.41
1,880 Trust 9% 1994	100%	100p	100	8.18	8.18	2,300 Trust 12% 2003-05	100%	101p	119	10.44	9.61
1,600 Trust 10% 1994	100%	100p	100	8.73	8.18	LONGS (over 15 years)					
1,240 Trust 12% 1994	100%	100p	100	11.65	8.22	1,800 Trust 9% 2020-04	100%	101p	101	9.05	9.47
1,100 Trust 12% 1994	100%	100p	100	11.56	8.24	2,897 Trust 9% 2007	100%	102p	102	9.17	9.45
330 Trust 14% 1994	100%	100p	100	13.40	8.25	1,150 Trust 11% 2003-07	100%	102p	102	9.27	9.56
214 Trust 14% 1994	100%	100p	100	9.30	8.25	4,071 Trust 9% 2008	100%	102p	102	9.29	9.41
2,300 Trust 10% 1995	100%	100p	100	9.19	8.32	1,250 Trust 12% 2008-08	100%	102p	102	10.27	9.42
2,230 Trust 12% 1995	100%	100p	100	11.16	8.34	1,200 Trust 9% 2010	100%	102p	102	9.07	9.42
840 Trust 12% 1995	100%	100p	100	11.62	8.34	1,023 Corp 9% 2011	100%	102p	102	9.37	9.49
720 Trust 9% 1992-96	100%	100p	100	8.92	8.71	1,000 Trust 11% 2008-12	100%	102p	102	10.27	9.49
3,400 Corp 9% 1996	100%	100p	100	9.53	8.64	700 Trust 10% 2012-15	100%	102p	102	9.15	9.43
820 Trust 10% 1996	100%	100p	100	11.65	8.71	1,000 Trust 12% 2013-17	100%	121p	121	9.91	9.47
1,150 Trust 10% 1996	100%	100p	100	12.17	8.67	UNDATED					
1,200 Trust 10% 1996	100%	100p	100	12.71	8.79	226 Consols 2 1/2	100%	100p	100	9.53	9.53
3,700 Trust 10% 1997	100%	100p	100	9.80	8.53	475 Trust 2 1/2	100%	100p	100	9.53	9.53
1,200 Trust 10% 1997	100%	100p	100	11.43	8.73	50 Trust 2 1/2	100%	100p	100	9.53	9.53
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)											
4,750 Trust 5 1/2% 1997	100%	100p	100	8.63	8.41	127 Corp 3 1/2	100%	100p	100	9.82	9.82
1,000 Trust 6% 1997-98	100%	124p	124	12.39	8.60	389 Consols 3 1/2	100%	100p	100	9.82	9.82
3,200 Trust 6% 1998	100%	93p	93	7.19	8.19	1,409 Trust 3 1/2	100%	100p	100	9.82	9.82
3,300 Trust 6% 1998	100%	100p	100	9.30	8.60	INDEX-LINKED					
935 Trust 10% 1998	100%	111p	111	11.97	8.65	300 Trust 11% 2004	100%	100p	100	1.81	3.37
1,000 Trust 6% 1999	100%	100p	100	9.13	8.66	1,100 Trust 11% 2004	100%	100p	100	1.81	3.37
1,780 Corp 10% 1999	100%	100p	100	9.57	8.67	1,100 Trust 11% 2004	100%	100p	100	1.81	3.37
1,652 Trust 10% 1999	100%	100p	100	8.71	8.83	1,100 Trust 11% 2004	100%	100p	100	1.81	3.37
3,050 Trust 10% 1999	100%	100p	100	8.89	8.87	1,100 Trust 11% 2004	100%	100p	100	1.81	3.37
4,119 Corp 9% 2000	100%	101p	101	10.36	8.9	1,100 Trust 11% 2004	100%	100p	100	1.81	3.37
4,750 Trust 10% 2000	100%	101p	101	10.36	8.9	1,100 Trust 11% 2004	100%	100p	100	1.81	3.37
700 Trust 10% 1999-01	100%	100p	100	10.80	9.25	1,100 Trust 11% 2004	100%	100p	100	1.81	3.37
4,750 Trust 10% 2000	100%	100p	100	9.47	9.04	1,100 Trust 11% 2004	100%	100p	100	1.81	3.37
700 Trust 10% 1999-01	100%	100p	100	10.80	9.25	1,100 Trust 11% 2004	100%	100p	100	1.81	3.37

Capitalisation, week's change

Portfolio

W	437	+6	21.7	6.6	6.6
Water	446	+11	19.2	5.7	8.6
Water	468	+20	21.4	6.1	5.4
Water	512	+12	19.5	5.1	7.5
the W	475	+17	19.5	5.5	8.0

Independence for a whole section of medical practice is celebrated today. Pat Blair considers the benefits for practitioners



The coat of arms of the Royal College of Anaesthetists, whose motto reads: *It is divine to sedate pain*

Celebrations today mark a newly gained independence for anaesthetic practice in Britain. From being a college within the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and a faculty for 40 years before that, it has come of age as the Royal College of Anaesthetists.

The faculty was set up by the Royal College of Surgeons in 1948, the year when the National Health Service was born, and was then a minor speciality. Anaesthetics has since developed into one of the largest specialities. Now, almost one in seven hospital doctors is either a consultant or a trainee anaesthetist, working in the operating theatre and pain clinics and often heading intensive care units.

On March 16 the Queen grant-

ed the anaesthetists' college a royal charter and today the college will be formally dedicated at a service in St Clement Danes Church, at Guildhall in the City, nearly 100 men and women, from the UK and countries as far apart as France and India, Iraq and Australia, will receive the FRCA's diploma that admit them to fellowship. To some, says Professor Alastair Spence, the college president, a royal prefix and a charter may seem mere gobbledegook but he believes they carry implications for anaesthesia and the standard of patient care.

New status, renewed challenge

The tradition stems from such occasions as when craftsmen herbar surgeons in Edinburgh in 1505 received the Seal of Cause, licensing them to practice. Previously, barber surgeons had included "unreliable and ill-disciplined individuals who lacked public esteem and, in some cases, were a public danger", says Professor Spence, the professor of anaesthesia at the Edinburgh University.

He says: "Charters were, and still are, given to bodies so that the public interest might be better fulfilled. To be a fellow offers privileges, but it also imposes responsibilities to ensure that the

corporate standards of fellowship are maintained and sustained."

All anaesthetists, trainees or consultants, are fully qualified doctors and the college's 5,000 fellows have gained their fellowship through examination. "It is a qualification that is much sought after," Professor Spence says.

There are three years of basic specialist training and three years of higher specialist training before examinations. Nearly half the fellows are women, but that is not yet reflected in the elected 20-practitioner council: only three are women.

As part of its main function to set and maintain standards, the college approves and oversees all training syllabuses, bestows recognition on hospitals where training may take place, and has established a senior lectureship at Birmingham University.

Alethea Rogers, the appeals director, says the college has almost reached its target of £5 million, to be used for its new premises and for research fellowships, thanks to companies such as Glaxo, which led the way with a £600,000 donation, and ICI, BOC and Smiths Industries, which each donated more than £250,000, as well as many others.

Although the college has now legally separated from the Royal College of Surgeons, their joint investigations, such as an enquiry into post-operative deaths, have helped to point the way to improved medical practice, and the two colleges will retain their strong links.

The college is now having exploratory meetings within the European Community, with the aim of producing a body responsible for quality assurance and, initially, to establish a minimum standard of practice and training for member states.

In the *British Journal of Anaesthesia* Professor Spence says the new status renews the challenge "to offer, in a totally ethical context, the best that is possible in good, reliable and safe practice".

The profession of many skills

Anaesthesia is now one of the UK's largest specialities, and about a seventh of hospital doctors are either consultant or trainee anaesthetists, whose activities encompass many skills over and above giving general or regional (local) anaesthesia in the operating theatre.

The main functions of the Royal College of Anaesthetists are to set and maintain the standards of training and practice of anaesthetists at all levels.

British anaesthesia has established an international reputation for high clinical and academic standards, largely based on the college's diploma, originally FFRCS (Fellowship of the Faculty of Royal College of Surgeons) and FRCA (Fellow of the Royal College of Anaesthetists).

Trainee anaesthetists follow a system of training prescribed by the college, consisting of a three-year basic specialist training (BST), and a three-year period of Higher Specialist Training.

Doctors may enter training in anaesthesia after becoming fully registered medical practitioners, one year after qualifications from medical school, although it is customary for intending anaesthetists to spend some time in another speciality, such as paediatrics or accident and emergency medicine, to give them a sounder general background before specialisation.

Training in anaesthesia is conducted in recognised departments in hospitals throughout the UK, and is directed during BST towards passing sequentially three examinations leading to the granting of the college's diploma.

The first examination, taken

The college's main function is to keep up standards at all levels, writes Cedric Prye-Roberts

typically towards the end of the first year in anaesthesia training, requires an understanding of the medical assessment of the surgical patient needing anaesthesia, and a knowledge of basic techniques of general and regional anaesthesia, and post-operative pain relief.

The second examination requires a knowledge of the basic sciences of physiology (function) and pharmacology (drug therapy) relevant to

'We take a special interest in fostering the education of medical students in many different areas'

anaesthesia. Because anaesthetists are physicians who use applied physiology, biochemistry, pharmacology and physics in their everyday practice, it is important that trainees acquire a detailed knowledge of these essential subjects.

An emphasis on these applied basic sciences has been a special feature of British training in anaesthesia since the founding of the faculty. Other sister faculties in the Irish Republic, Australasia and South Africa all follow our example.

The final examination tests for competence in all aspects of anaes-

thesia, intensive therapy and acute and chronic pain therapy.

Higher Specialist Training is undertaken as a senior registrar in training schemes throughout the UK and the Irish Republic. These are supervised by the Joint Committee on Higher Training of Anaesthetists, on which the college is heavily represented.

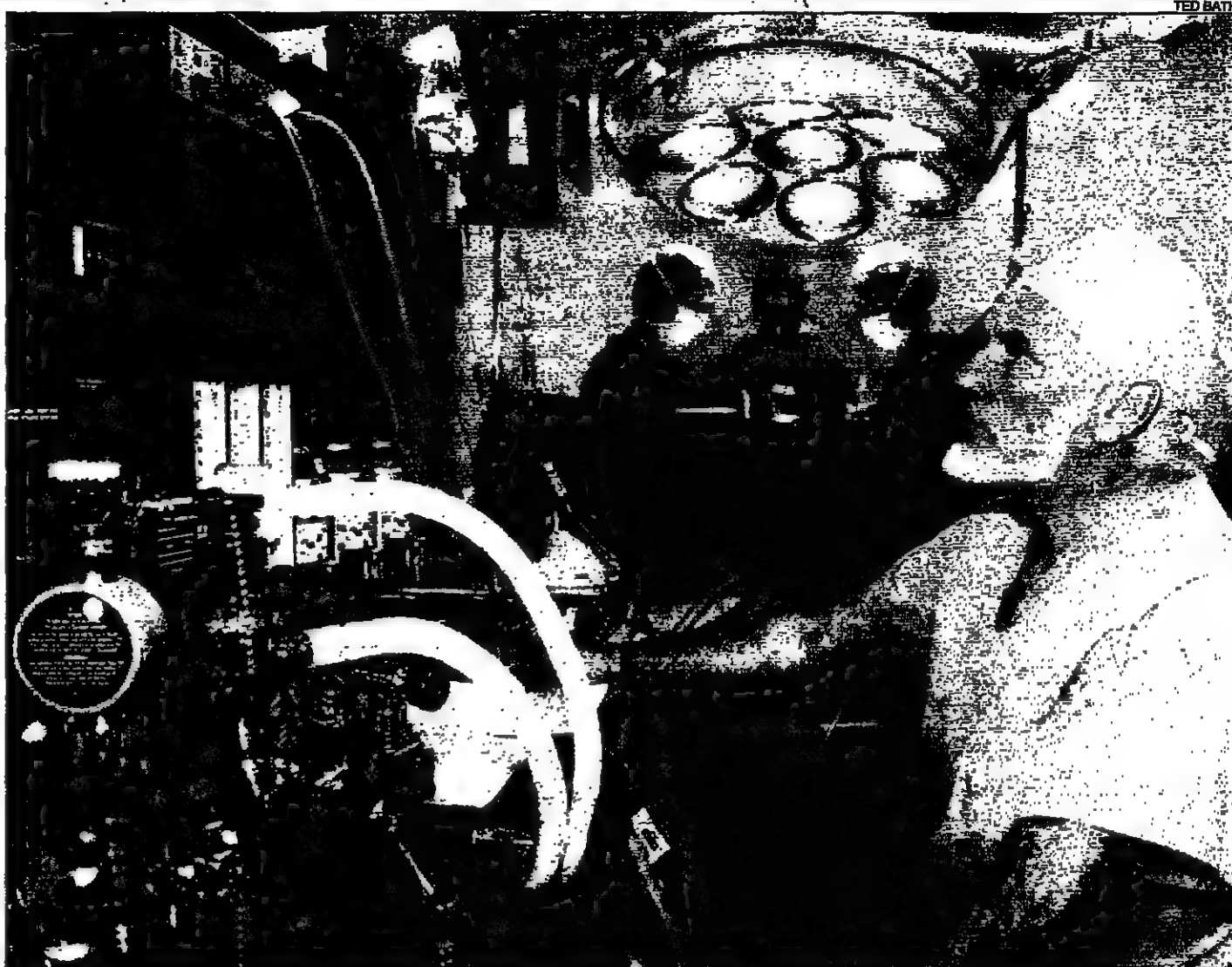
During this time the senior registrars have opportunities to expand their expertise in specialist areas such as anaesthesia for cardiac, paediatric or neurological surgery, the management of chronic pain, adult and paediatric intensive therapy, and research into all aspects of anaesthesia.

Anaesthetists appointed to consultant posts in the NHS or universities have usually completed more than the minimum requirements of these programmes, and we can justly claim that they have had as comprehensive a training as anywhere in the world.

Among the college's most important roles are:

● **Continuing medical education:** Every doctor has a duty to his patients to keep abreast of new developments and never reaches a point at which he or she stops learning. Details of new surgical operations, new drugs, new techniques for their use and new physiological monitors are published regularly in the official journal of the college, the *British Journal of Anaesthesia*, and other professional journals.

Twice every year, the college organises symposia on topics of clinical interest, and every May it hosts a scientific meeting that is intended to sustain the practising anaesthetist's interest in and knowledge of the basic sciences, and the developments in these sciences that



Getting the measure right: Professor Prye-Roberts in the operating theatre. However, the work goes beyond giving anaesthetics

can produce new benefits for patients.

● **Public education:** The patient having surgery is the focus of every anaesthetist's attention, and the college is now embarking on an extensive programme of public education. All patients and the parents of all children should receive expert guidance and accurate information to help them to understand what to expect before and after an operation.

The best way is for the anaesthetist to visit patients before the

proposed surgery, and to give them a personal description of what every patient hopes for, and which we hope to provide—a pleasant and painless process of going to sleep, a guarantee of unconsciousness during an operation under general anaesthesia, and, above all, a safe and painless recovery from surgery. These are the college's attainable goals.

● **Medical student education:** Although undergraduate education is the prime responsibility of medical schools within our universities, the

Royal College of Anaesthetists, which occupies its own premises at 48-49 Russell Square in central London, takes a special interest in fostering the education of medical students in many different areas, the most important of which is resuscitation, both mouth-to-mouth breathing and management of cardiac arrest.

Every doctor must be able to perform acute resuscitative measures for a patient whose heart or breathing has stopped. Medical students are taught

additional skills by anaesthetists. These skills include the management of acute and chronic pain, intubation of the windpipe and control of breathing in the unconscious patient, the use of a variety of drugs, and a taste of the more complex management of the severely ill patient in the intensive therapy unit.

● **Professor Prye-Roberts, of the Sir Humphry Davy department of anaesthesia at the University of Bristol, is the immediate past vice-president of the Royal College of Anaesthetists.**

Beating pain, with the patient's help

New ways are being found to ensure comfort after an operation

Pain relief is a neglected part of post-operative management. Extraordinary though it may seem, the medical profession, on its own admission, has not been as good as it might have been at easing discomfort.

A report published in 1990 by the Royal College of Surgeons of England and the College (now Royal College) of Anaesthetists was blunt in its criticism. The picture was one of "persistent failure", the report said.

Professor Alastair Spence, the president of the Royal College of Anaesthetists, who chaired the report's working party, says: "I think the main message is that, until about the time of publication of the report, rather inadequate attention had been given to doing all that was possible to relieve pain after surgery. That

problem extends over many generations. It was just accepted that operations brought pain and you had to live with that until it was over. You got an injection but it was not necessarily timed at a particularly appropriate point in relation to the pain that you had."

The reasons for these failures are complex but may include, for example, fears by medical staff about patient addiction and respiratory depression. Those fears may have led to ineffective administration of drugs.

The conventional method of pain relief is injecting an opiate such as morphine into the muscle. However, other techniques and technologies are now available.

One of the most innovative

is so-called "patient-controlled analgesia", in which the patient administers the pain-killing drugs, using a machine that has been programmed by the doctor so that the infusion

rates are within safe limits. The patient depresses a button for a shot of the drug, and the doctor sets the maximum dose and the lockout interval—the period after a dose during which any further demands will be ignored. The machines are not cheap, costing about £2,000 on average, but have the enormous advantage of put-

ting the patient in control. That meets one of the main points made by the Spence report about traditional attitudes, the misconception among doctors and nurses

that they, rather than the patient, are the authority on the patient's pain. The report favours the technique because drug use follows need. "The traditional approach," says Spence, "which was to give you an intramuscular injection of morphine when it was convenient to the ward routine to do so—which was really the time-honoured way of treating

pain—was, as an exercise in mismatch, quite unfortunate to put it mildly."

Professor George Hall, of the department of anaesthesia at St George's Hospital medical school in south London, says some of the most sophisticated of the patient-controlled analgesia machines are extremely clever.

He says: "Some of them are so good that they will produce a nice printout of the analgesic requirements of the patient during the past 24 hours. You just press a knob to see how much they needed during the course of the post-operative phase."

"That is very useful because it gives us some indication of the analgesic requirements." Professor Hall says some doctors feel that because of the possibility of respiratory depression during self-administration there needs to be more nursing care than normal. "There is a debate about this," he says. "It has been argued that the nursing needs are greater than the standard post-operative care on the ward."

Opiates, of course, however administered, cause nausea and vomiting. "A lot of people find nausea and vomiting worse than pain," Professor Hall says. "I have watched them down-titrate the mor-

phine because they would rather have some pain and no nausea than have very little pain and a lot of nausea."

Another technique that has come to the fore in the past five years is to block off the nerves from the site of the operation so that the pain "messages" from the operative site do not reach the brain. A common way of doing this is epidural analgesia.

A small catheter is introduced around the nerve roots at the spine and a cocktail of local anaesthetic and an opiate is pumped in. Local anaesthetics, such as bupivacaine, are effective but can have drawbacks given by themselves.

Bupivacaine, for example, becomes less efficacious with time. A tolerance towards it builds up and the dose has to be increased. In high concentrations it can also temporarily paralyse the muscles. Adding a small dose of opiate stops the tolerance to the local anaesthetic developing and means that a smaller dose of the anaesthetic can be given ruling out muscle paralysis. The disadvantages are severe itching and a risk of respiratory depression but anaesthetists are using this technique to provide patients with painless recovery from abdominal surgery.

MALCOLM BROWN



Professor Spence: "You used to have to live with pain"

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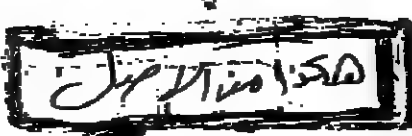
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World leaders in child care

How is Britain pioneering infant research, asks

Malcolm Brown

The first lesson any medical student is taught about anaesthesia for children is that they differ physiologically from adults and they need different treatment.

Children have fewer reserves than adults, says Dr David Hatch, Professor of Paediatric Anaesthesia at the University of London's Institute of Child Health. Their organs function perfectly well as long as things do not go wrong, but once they start getting sick they have fewer reserves to call on. They are more susceptible to illness.

The same with anaesthesia, says the professor. "Its side effects could be more severe for children than they would be for a healthy teenager if you did not know the sensitivities of the child."

So a child is at greater risk than an adult when it is anaesthetised and it needs to be anaesthetised differently. Doctors are, for example,



Gentle touch: Dr David Hatch in his consulting room with some cuddly toys he uses to calm his small patients

more likely to use muscle relaxants on a very young baby and put it on a breathing machine than they would be with older patients. If a baby is allowed to breathe on its own and then given an anaesthetic

its breathing can become very shallow.

"Children are much more sensitive to the depressant effect of the anaesthetic gases on their breathing," Professor Hatch says. "Very often we can

accept a little bit of depression of respiration in an adult because they have still got enough reserve to be able to exchange their gases and breathe quite happily. But if you give a baby an anaesthetic

you will almost always have to accompany it by life support assistance, either putting them on a mechanical respirator or ventilating their lungs by hand with a bag which you squeeze."

Paediatric anaesthesia does not attract a lot of funding — Dr Hatch's chair is the first and so far only one of its kind in the country.

"We are among the leaders in research into infant respiratory physiology and in terms of clinical practice British anaesthesia is still among the best in the world," the professor says. "The number of overseas members we have recruited to the Association of Paediatric Anaesthetists is very encouraging."

Paediatric anaesthesia is still a very small specialisation. The association has about 200 UK anaesthetists in membership, but bodies like the Royal College are keen to encourage more interest in it.

The National Confidential Enquiry into Perioperative Deaths (NCEPD) in 1989, which focused on deaths in children, said that the overall surgical and anaesthetic care of children was of a high standard, but recommended that anaesthetists and surgeons should not undertake occasional paediatric practice.

The Royal College now recommends that every district hospital should have an anaesthetist on the staff responsible for the organisation of anaesthetic services for children.

At the cutting edge of care

The UK has about 300 intensive care units, which between them treat about 100,000 people a year. Around 90 per cent of the units are managed by anaesthetists, Malcolm Brown writes.

The intensive care doctor needs to have an extensive knowledge of "sharp end" medicine, surgery and pharmacology, being able to monitor patients, take emergency action and know when to call in a specialist.

The RCA suggests that intensive care units are responsible for some of the most dramatic strides being made in medicine. The mortality rate of 60 per cent in the 1950s has been cut to 15 per cent in these units today, says the college.

There are many reasons for this, but anaesthetists say that two of the main ones are the advances in ventilation techniques and in the monitoring of the

heart and the circulation. All anaesthetists get some specialist training in intensive care in preparation for their fellowship exams. Beyond that, the training is not as formalised as it is in some other countries, such as America, where many doctors specialise entirely in intensive care.

There is a scheme in Britain under which senior registrars in medicine, surgery or anaesthesia may go on two year attachments to intensive care units, but there is no formal qualification at the end.

Surgeons, physicians and anaesthetists are now debating whether there should be a diploma in intensive care.

Intensive care is not regarded by many of its practitioners in this country as a lifetime's job. It is simply too demanding, and specialists often revert to their parent specialities.

Such work may be too stressful to do for long

This hurts me less than it hurts you

Doctors are learning how to deal with intractable pain

The common idea of pain is of something unpleasant but usually short-lived, Malcolm Brown writes. We suffer pain in childbirth, after an accident or an operation, or as a result of disease. Sometimes the pain subsides naturally, as in childbirth, or can be controlled or removed by curing the disease. But some pain persists. Anaesthetists have developed techniques to control or lessen the intensity of chronic pain.

Many hospitals now have pain clinics which deal solely with chronic pain. The idea started in the United States in the 1950s. Dr John J. Bonica set up the first clinic in Seattle.

Patients attending such pain clinics suffer from a wide variety of complaints, but perhaps the main groups to benefit, according to the Royal College of Anaesthetists, are those with prolonged pain following an operation, back pain sufferers and patients with cancer.

Although led by anaesthetists, most pain clinics are now multi-disciplinary, involving physiotherapists, physiologists, pharmacologists or even acupuncturists. Treatments range from medication and surgery to electrical stimulation of the nerves. The medications used are, by and large, not the classic painkillers. These will already have been used by GPs and other doctors and failed.

Instead, chronic pain specialists are turning to drugs used in other conditions. Two very useful preparations are carbamazepine (an anticonvulsant used in the treatment of epilepsy) and the antidepressant amitriptyline.

Chronic pain specialists also use nerve blocks in which anaesthesia is produced by blocking the passage of pain impulses in the sensory nerves supplying the affected part of the body.

Nerve block is used, for example, to ease the pain of pancreatic cancer and to treat the pain of peripheral vascular disease from which patients' legs can turn blue, cold and painful. Blocking the sympathetic nerves in the back can make the leg warmer and more comfortable.

Pain specialists are cautiously optimistic that in the not too distant future we may have some much more effective pain drugs. Dr Keith Budd, a

consultant anaesthetist at Bradford Royal Infirmary, thinks that in five years or so we may be seeing drugs which are "three or four generations on from morphine in their development and subtlety. They will be more effective and have fewer side effects."

Researchers are also exploring the use of "antagonists" of a number of the chemicals which transmit pain in the body. "There are antagonists to these chemicals which are already in trial," says Dr Budd. "They look very promising." Such antagonists should be useful not only in treating pain, but in preventing it occurring.

The most radical treatment for chronic pain is neurosurgery. One of the most widely used techniques, particularly for those

who have a tumour on one side of the body, is the so-called "percutaneous cordotomy". This selectively destroys the ascending pain pathways in the spinal cord.

"It is not analogous to cutting the whole spinal cord," says Dr Douglas Justins, director of the Pain Management Centre at St Thomas's Hospital, London. "You just leave this one area slightly numbed and pain free."

Not all chronic pain is wholly organic. In origin, some of the most interesting patients are those whose pain appears to have a significant psychological component. But pain is no less real or less distressing for being psychological, say the experts.

"This is a very big category, and is becoming increasingly important in pain work," Dr Justins says. "A lot of pain clinics now employ clinical psychologists."

Treatments range from coping strategies (for example, relaxation training for those who get tension headaches) to pain management programmes, the intention of which is to get the patient functioning normally despite the pain.

One of the most valuable things the pain clinics give the patient is time, says Dr Justins. Many patients find a willing ear very comforting. "Even though you may not have anything to offer the patient other than time, that is still very helpful. The patient may say 'You are the first people who has believed in my pain,'" says Dr Justins.

Pain is no less distressing or real for being psychological

FROM GLAXO TO THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF ANAESTHETISTS.

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WORLD LEADERS IN PHARMACEUTICALS

Rematch with Eubank on the cards after third-round stoppage in Rome

Benn delivers timely reminder

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT IN ROME

JUST when British boxing was counting the cost of recent disappointments — the poor performance of Chris Eubank and the defeat of Herol Graham and Colin McMillan — and wondering where the next good fight would come from after Lennox Lewis had done his bit, Nigel Benn provided the answer: the much-awaited return between him and Eubank.

As soon as the green-and-gold belt had been put around him, following his third-round victory over Mauro Galvano of Italy, for the World Boxing Council (WBC) super-middleweight title here on Saturday, Benn lent over the ropes and said to Eubank: "Now we can do business."

Eubank replied: "I agree." He then told reporters: "Now the ground is mutual. He's got something I want and I've got something he wants."

Benn said: "Before the fight, Eubank was dictating to me. Now it's me." He said he had never forgotten the defeat inflicted on him by Eubank on November 18, 1990. "It's taken two years to get over it," he said. "I'm a different man now, a much better fighter, more mature."

Even as Benn hurried to his dressing-room past small groups of punters hailing abuse, coins and general rubbish at him — and the "walk-out" contests continued in the ring — a scenario was being worked out. They would have two more contests and meet in June at an open-air venue.

Eubank will box next in Manchester on November 28; Benn in Glasgow on December 13. Barry Hearn, the promoter, said: "If they keep on winning, we may be able to find the kind of money they want." The winner could even go on to challenge Jeff Harding, of Australia, for the WBC light-heavyweight title.

As the first Briton, after Bob Fitzsimmons, to win two world titles abroad, Benn is eager to make it three. "I want to win world titles at three different weights," he said. "Harding is a hard man but he's not that big. I've been sparring with guys of 145 st."

So elevated was Benn with a victory in Italy that most experts said he would never

achieve against a local man. He was ready to fight anyone. He said: "I want Iran Barkley [the International Boxing Federation champion], anywhere, any time, even in Brooklyn. He scares me. I like the fear. I love a good tear-up."

Benn was even prepared to give Galvano a return. Peter DeFreitas, his personal manager, said: "Don't rule out Galvano. But not in Italy."

The Italian, despite his height, reach and home advantage, hardly made a fight of it and disappointed the crowd at the Marino Ice Rink when he pulled out with a gash over his left eyebrow. The hardest part for Benn came after the bout when Rocco Agostini, Galvano's manager, tried to claim that his man was still champion because the bout had been stopped by an injury in the third round.

It is now clear why the champion had not complained when his corner refused him. Agostini protested to the referee, Joe Cortes, of the United States, but Cortes turned away and told Benn's corner men: "Don't worry, your man won."

Agostini thought that any bout stopped within three rounds because of accidental injury would be a technical draw. He approached Enzo Iacopini, the WBC supervisor, from Italy, who upheld his appeal, but when it was pointed out to her by an official that the injury had been caused by a blow — a right hand in the second round — she reversed her decision.

If Galvano could have carried on boxing, the final result might have been different. He was coming back into the fight and his tactic of running and holding was beginning to frustrate Benn.

Had Galvano not been a runner, and followed up his advantage, he could have done more damage. At that stage, even though Benn had done all the work, boxed very well and was in front on all three cards, it was by no means certain that he would have stayed in front.

At the end of the third round, Jimmy Tibbs, Benn's corner man, was still firing his man up with some choice words and telling him to "go



Loud and clear: Benn raises the WBC super-middleweight belt after his win

out and rip the title away from him" in the next round. Benn's corner was surprised that Galvano had decided to pull out on the advice of the doctor.

Benn went mad, running wildly around the ring and kissing everybody in sight. He

jumped on to the bottom rope in his corner and punched the air in the direction of his supporters and screamed: "Benn's back!"

He did not endear himself to the Italians but it was good to see him back. □ The British title eliminator

between Robert McCracken, the unbeaten light-middleweight, and Ensey Bingham, of Manchester, has been put back from October 17 to October 29 because McCracken is suffering from a cut above his right eye sustained during a bout last week.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Problems persist at Swinton

HUDDERSFIELD yesterday earned their first points of the Stones Bitter championship season. Alex Murphy's team lifted itself off the bottom of the second division with a 37-10 win against crisis-ridden Swinton, who were left still searching for their first victory.

At the other end of the table, London Crusaders, who hammered Huddersfield last weekend, missed the chance to go top after slipping up 30-8 at Bramley.

Rochdale Hornets also failed to join leaders Featherstone Rovers and Oldham on eight points, crashing 24-12 at lowly Carlisle.

Unbeaten Ryedale-York maintained pole position in the third division with an 84-0 demolition of struggling Nottingham City, who parted company with their coach, Dave Sampson, in midweek.

Dewbury and Batley both triumphed again and Barrow recorded their first success this season with a 46-25 blast at Blackpool.

Daryl Powell, the Great Britain centre, is almost certain to miss the World Cup final against Australia at Wembley on October 24 after suffering torn knee ligaments in Sheffield Eagles's 20-16 defeat of Castleford.

St Helens stumble to victory

Wakefield Trinity..... 5
St Helens..... 18

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

TO HAVE played so ineffectively and won said less about St Helens' resolve yesterday than about the extraordinary capacity of Wakefield Trinity to let go apologetically whenever they have opponents by the scruff of the neck.

Two tries by Hunt and Dwyer in the closing ten minutes, when Wakefield's sterling resistance finally dissolved, cast a ray of reflection on an otherwise jaded second league victory over Wakefield, after which St Helens counted themselves reasonably fortunate to still be in possession of a two-point advantage at the top of the Stones Bitter championship.

Wakefield, fastened to the bottom of the first division, without a win, looked infinitely better than their league position at times, but must already be wondering how they can recover, given their long injury list.

St Helens meandered along for an hour before suddenly realising that their unbeaten run was in danger. When in the second minute, Bagnall sent a grubber kick to the left corner flag, there were quizzical stares but precious little attempt by St Helens to stop Benson touching down. The defence failed to close up on

Wright a few moments later and the stand-off half dropped a simple goal.

Until the second half, Griffiths and Ropati looked strangely at odds at the usual creative hub of the St Helens attack, which was stymied by the tackling of Bagnall around the fringes and the efforts of Goddard and Jones to close down the elusive Hunt and Sullivan on the wings.

When Dwyer got clear, Benson's lunging haul from behind brought him down inches short of the line.

Mistakes by both sides proliferated, but the momentary lapse shortly after the interval which allowed Ropati to make ground up the middle and Cooper to charge down Connolly's kick through was Wakefield's most costly.

Having fallen 8-5 behind, the home side allowed impatience and panic in front of goal to overtake them. St Helens weathered the storm with a somewhat indifferent eye until Cooper's chip put Hunt over and Ropati found Dwyer unopposed on his outside.

SCORERS: Wakefield: Try: Benson Dropped goal: Wright St Helens: Try: Cooper, Hunt, Dwyer Goals: Dwyer 3

WAKEFIELD: G Spencer, R Goddard, A Mason, P Benson, D Jones, N Wright, G Bagnall, M Webster, R Cooper, J Lacey, J Glancy, N Bell, R Dwyer, B Bell, P Eden, R Slater, J Timmins

ST HELENS: P Vewers, A Huxley, G Connolly, J Macquinn, A Sullivan, Ropati, J Griffiths, K Ward, P Cooper, S Dwyer, G Mason, P Forster, C Joyce, S Ropati, G Cooper

Referee: R Whitham

CRICKET

Waqar in sight of a fortune

ACCUSATIONS of ball-tampering may not have been cleared up satisfactorily but Pakistan's fast bowlers are the hottest properties in county cricket in the wake of their Test successes last summer, with Waqar Younis in a class of his own (Peter Ball writes).

The Surrey player is reported to have negotiated a contract that will bring him a sum approaching £250,000 over three years, which will take him above his new-ball partner, Wasim Akram, whose new contract for Lancashire is believed to be worth around £50,000 a year.

Fringe benefits for Waqar, who will become the game's highest earner, include a Chelsea flat and a top-of-the-range car. With other counties beginning to express a serious interest in the most dangerous bowler in the game, Surrey have been forced to meet his demands.

□ Pakistan won the world sixes tournament in Hong Kong, beating India in the final yesterday. Wasim Akram won the man-of-the-series award. In a group game, Pakistan were unexpectedly beaten by Hong Kong.

□ Tim Edwards, a wicket-keeper who has played for Cornwall, is to join Worcestershire.

Not unnaturally, Bourn was in an emotional state after a training feed of exceptional skill, which had restored his professional reputation.

"That's put him spot on for Gullstream," he said. "We've had a lot of problems with him and a lot of what I have said has been misconstrued."

An elated Cauthe was in no doubt about the high merit of this performance. "He went through a gap this wide," he said, putting his two index fingers about six inches apart, "and he quickened away in a split second."

This has been an extraordinary year, just under 12 months ago, Shaikh Mohammed paid Allen Paulson a reported \$9 million for a half share in the Blushing Groom chestnut after that impressive win in the Grand Criterium.

MAIN RESULTS

Going: very soft
CIGA PRIX DU ROND-POINT (Group II) 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Dalglish delighted to be reaping rich dividends



Shearer: class display

Blackburn Rovers 7
Norwich City 1

By CLIVE WHITE

WHO said money can't buy success? Whatever problems Alex Ferguson may be having making his multi-million pound investment over six years pay off at Manchester United, Kenny Dalglish must be more delighted with his quick return on Jack Walker's money just up the road at Blackburn Rovers.

Next week will be the first anniversary of Dalglish's appointment as manager at Ewood Park and, in that time, he has transformed a second division club with a nasty

habit for last-minute capitulation into a genuine championship contender — a fact that Blackburn underlined on Saturday by usurping the league leaders.

Never before, surely, was one so unceremoniously unseated.

Parallels with United are unavoidable and not just for geographical reasons. Both managers have spent fortunes — Ferguson £16 million, Dalglish £11 million — in pursuit of the same goal, the championship.

This summer, both homed in on the same player who they thought would add the finishing touch — in more ways than one — to those pretensions.

Alan Shearer, the player in question, favoured a move to Old Trafford but when Ferguson, the big spender, was required to be that little bit more extravagant than ever before, the Scot, perhaps overcome by a moment's thriftiness, balked at Southampton's asking price of £3.6 million.

Dalglish, also a Scot but suffering no such relapse into traditional traits, stumped up the money — well, Walker's money, at least.

With that bit of business done and not done, the championship may have been won and lost.

Of course, it is by no means certain that United, whose build-ups tend to be more

intricate, with the ball knocked into feet for forwards, would have played to Shearer's strengths quite as deliberately as Blackburn do and therefore, perhaps, might not have reaped the same dividends.

It was a classic Shearer performance against Norwich, full of aggressive running, selfless support and lethal finishing.

Mike Walker, the Norwich manager, once he had recovered from his shell shock, said that Shearer was an even better player than the one Southampton knew.

"He used to do bits and pieces," he said, "but now... He gave us problems all on his own."

"Mind you, I think he cons referees into a few free kicks but that's clever."

Burnerworth, his marker, was outplayed. In laying on two goals for Wegerle and one for himself before half-time, Shearer outpaced, outthought and finally out-thought the Norwich central defender — as well as Gunn, the goalkeeper — with an impudent chip.

Even the introverted Dalglish could not contain his joy on the touchline as Blackburn, plus a header from Sherwood against his former club and minus a clinically executed goal from Newman, went in 4-1 ahead at the break.

But what pleased Dalglish

most of all was that Blackburn kept on scoring in the second half.

It was one of those days when just about everything Blackburn hit went in: a superb Cowans free kick, a Ripley drive and, finally, a Shearer header for his thirteenth goal.

Wegerle still managed to put forward an entry for "miss of the season" when he contrived to fail twice in quick succession from just six yards out.

It was also one of those days from Norwich's point of view, when they returned to their soft, over-elaborate bad old ways of last season.

"If you don't compete, that's what happens," Walker

remarked. Right now, he must feel as if he could do with some of his namesake's money.

"If they have got a weakness anywhere, they just go out and buy the best player and plug it," he said.

Dalglish makes no attempt to disguise the fact that he has been fortunate enough to be able to buy a team. And success? "It depends who's making the decisions," he said.

BLACKBURN ROVERS: R Morris, P Brown, A Wright, T Sherwood, C Wegerle, V Moran (sub: T. Marshall), S Ripley (sub: J. Wilson), M Adams, A Shearer, R Wegerle, G Cowans.
NORWICH CITY: B Gunn, J Chisholm, M Bowen, I Butterworth, C Sutton, D Smith, I Cook, R Newman, M Rogers, J Gaze, D Phillips (sub: L. Power).
Referee: P. Doherty.

Increasing worries are taxing Everton

Oldham Athletic 1
Everton 0

By IAN ROSS

THE problems that have beset Liverpool in recent weeks have been publicised to such a degree that the demise of Merseyside's other club, Everton, has gone almost unnoticed.

After a promising opening to a season that will shape the future of Howard Kendall, the team manager, Everton are sinking with the speed of a pebble casually tossed over the side of a River Mersey ferry. The club's sixth defeat in seven games might have been heavier but for the poor finishing of the Oldham forwards.

A fixture which, in the past, has provided football of vision and commitment said more about the problems that confront Everton than ever could the articulate Kendall. Kendall led Everton to two league championships during the Eighties but his attempts to prove wrong those who derided as foolish his decision to return to Goodison Park for a second spell as manager have been undermined by a lack of finance and, subsequently, a lack of genuine quality within a team that is competent but devoid of flair.

Inevitably, Oldham's defence was in genius, almost benevolent mood, yet Everton's forwards — Rideout and Johnson — were unable to profit. Indeed, the latter was so ineffective that one had to question the wisdom of omitting Cotte, another player who is plagued by inconsistency but has a more voracious appetite for hard work.

Oldham often committed as

many as eight players to attack and, as much by weight of numbers as by skill, they created sufficient chances during the opening 30 minutes to have rendered the second half an irrelevant formality.

All seemed set fair in the ninth minute when the home side's incessant pressure was rewarded with the goal which was to ultimately decide the issue. Henry's corner was driven with such unerring accuracy, and with such force, that Sharp needed to apply only the slightest of touches with his head to deliver the ball in the path of Jobson, who displayed a callous disregard for his own safety by diving in between two defenders to dispatch a firm header.

Thereafter, Everton threatened to buckle each and every time Oldham crossed the half-way line but, fortunately for them, Marshall leading his side's attack for the first time in ten months, chose to squander the sort of opportunities that even the hapless Johnson would have found difficult to spurn.

After a desolate opening half, Everton's football improved appreciably but an increase in the share of possession only served to underline the inadequacy of their forwards. It was simply not to be Everton's day as Watson was

discarded three minutes before the final whistle when he swept Wargyha's exquisite cross goalwards only for his shot to strike the rumbling frame of Jobson.

OLDHAM ATHLETIC: J. Halloworth, S. Richmond, N. Poynton, N. Henry, R. Jobson, J. Marshall, G. Hall, I. Owen, G. Sharp, M. Wilson, P. Bernard.
EVERTON: N. Southall, A. Harper, A. Hinchcliffe, I. Eborall, D. Watson, G. Adair, R. Wargyha, S. Morris, P. Rideout, M. Johnson (sub: A. Cotte), P. Radosavljevic (sub: P. Seagren).
Referee: P. Don.

Slaven shows how it should be done

Middlesbrough 1
Manchester United 1

By PETER BALL

A LACK of firepower cost Manchester United their place in the Uefa Cup last Tuesday. Unless it is rectified quickly, it could cost them the even greater prize of the Premier League championship.

On Saturday they at least broke their duck, but it took a defender to do so. Ironically after Tuesday's exit in Moscow on penalties, it came from the spot. Steve Bruce's goal earning them a point at Ayrshire Park. But even Lennie Lawrence, the Middlesbrough manager, admitted that with reasonable finishing United could have taken all three points.

They have scored only 12 goals in 11 league games, and the failure to find the money to buy Alan Shearer in the summer is looking increasingly unforfeitable.

"They're devastating on the break," Lawrence said. "They move the ball so quickly, they had three or four opportunities where they had cut us to pieces, but they failed to finish."

Hughes missed twice after doubling the goalkeeper, although the sodden pitch, which had the players skidding and sliding, offered some excuse. Kanchelskis, whose speed could have exploited the conditions, was not given the chance to do so until ten minutes from time.

Hughes, whose unhappy afternoon was complete when

he was substituted, had no luck either, the referee, Mike Reed, ignoring a blatant trip by Morris which should have brought United their second penalty just before Middlesbrough's equaliser. Perhaps Reed, who had an inconsistent afternoon all round, felt one penalty was enough.

There had been no doubt about the one he did give on the stroke of half-time, after Giggs had held the ball while Irwin set off on a run which took him beyond Morris. Gittens, who had been called in when Kernaghan ricked his neck in the warm-up, arrived in time to send Irwin crashing "We were five yards down everywhere and then there was a rash challenge," Lawrence said.

Bruce, who had missed one of the penalties in Moscow, made no mistake in less pressured surroundings. In the next few minutes United could have made the game safe, but Hughes missed a glorious chance, and as the conditions took their toll on tired limbs, Middlesbrough battled their way back.

With Pallister in outstanding form, United resisted strongly. Slaven saw one effort come back off a post but he does not miss many and when he found space again he celebrated his recall to the Republic of Ireland squad by leaving Schmeichel helpless.

MIDDLESBROUGH: I. Ronalds, C. Morris, J. Phillips, S. Wright, A. Preece, B. Slaven, R. Muldoon, P. Wilkinson, J. Pollack (sub: J. Hendrick), T. Wright.
MANCHESTER UNITED: P. Schmeichel, G. Irwin, M. Preece (sub: A. Kanchelskis), S. Bruce, D. Fyfe, G. Pallister, C. Barry, M. Preece, B. McClellan, M. Hughes (sub: B. Robinson), R. Lugg.
Referee: M. Reed.



Midfield duel: Radosavljevic, of Everton, and Jobson, of Oldham Athletic, spare nothing in their challenge

Atkinson chips in amid Villa's mastery

Wimbledon 2
Aston Villa 3

By NICHOLAS HARLING

ON A day of 40 goals in the Premier League, none could have surpassed that with which Dalian Atkinson made certain of Aston Villa's fifth successive victory. It was, as it turned out, just as well for Villa that Atkinson had somehow managed to weave his way through four challenges since

Clarke's subsequent goal for Wimbledon came uncomfortably close to giving the home side hope of snatching an unmerited draw from an entertaining game.

Had Villa left Selhurst Park with anything but their full quota of points, it would have been grossly unjustified. Their early one-touch play was

delightful, fully deserving of the two-goal lead, which came with the latest brace from Saunders, who has now scored six in the three games since his arrival. Having showed their quality in attack, Villa answered most of the questions asked of their defence during a stirring second-half rally from Wimbledon.

It was significant that, despite his side's three excellent goals, Ron Atkinson should still single out a central defender, Teale, as his side's most accomplished performer. He dismissed Dalian Atkinson's run on goal, from inside his own half which finished with an impudent chip-over Segers, with: "He scores hundreds like that. I've tried to stop him doing it."

The manager also pointed to the Villa philosophy. "We knew it wouldn't be easy," he

said. "It was the type of game in which we had to be brave, not brave enough to risk getting our eyebrows split, but brave enough to keep playing our way." And how well Villa succeeded. Both the goals from Saunders followed lengthy passing movements, while Atkinson's was the type of individual goal that used to be the hallmark of Greaves.

The shame was that in making the first goal for Saunders with a cross that simply begged to be buried, Froggatt took a heavy knock that eventually forced him off. Fitzgerald was the culprit but it was the second cynical challenge on Froggatt, from Earle, that brought the Wimbledon player the first of three bookings in the match.

With Jones suspended and Fashanu lasting only 25 minutes before aggravating his

groin strain, Wimbledon fought back without either of their real hard men, or Holdsworth, who faces a hernia operation. It said much of their pluck that they should respond so ably to the second goal from Saunders, on the half-hour, after a lovely exchange with Houghton.

By half-time, Newhouse, the substitute, had deflected in a shot from Miller, Clarke, the original provider, was at the heart of most of Wimbledon's near things in the second half before deservedly scoring with a snorting left-footer. Even more deservedly, Villa held on for the remaining few seconds.

WIMBLEDON: H. Segers, W. Barton, G. Earle, P. Miller, J. Scott, S. Fitzgerald, N. Andrie, R. Teale, P. McGinley (sub: A. Newhouse), L. Sanchez, A. Clarke.
ASTON VILLA: M. Spink, E. Barnett, S. Saunders, S. Teale, P. McGinley, R. Richardson, R. Houghton, G. Parker, D. Saunders, D. Atkinson, S. Froggatt (sub: D. Vaisey).
Referee: S. Lodge.

THE TIMES TABLE OF THE FA PREMIER LEAGUE

Wldy chg	P	Pts	Goal diff	W (H-A)	D (H-A)	L (H-A)	For (H-A)	Agst (H-A)	Leading scorers	Offences S-O Bkg	Home attendance Avg 92-3	% chg 91-2	Recent form	Next match
1 (+1) Blackburn	11	24	+13	7 (5-2)	3 (0-3)	1 (1-0)	24 (17-7)	9 (5-4)	Shearer 12, Ripley 3	2 12	17,722	+33.7	wtdw	A Villa (a 19/10)
2 (-1) Norwich	11	23	+1	7 (4-3)	2 (1-1)	2 (0-2)	20 (8-12)	19 (3-16)	Robins 6, Phillips 5	- 5	13,847	-0.1	wwwd	QPR (h 17/10)
3 (0) Coventry	11	21	+4	6 (2-4)	3 (2-1)	2 (0-0)	14 (6-8)	10 (7-3)	Williams 4	- 7	14,063	+1.3	wwwd	Everton (a 17/10)
4 (+1) QPR	11	20	+7	5 (3-2)	5 (3-2)	1 (0-1)	17 (13-4)	10 (7-3)	Fordman 4, Sinton 3	- 15	14,560	+7.1	dwdw	Norwich (a 17/10)
5 (+1) A Villa	11	19	+6	5 (2-3)	4 (2-2)	2 (1-1)	20 (10-10)	14 (7-7)	Saunders 7, Atkinson 6	- 7	24,231	-2.4	wtdw	Blackburn (h 19/10)
6 (-2) Man Utd	11	19	+4	5 (3-3)	4 (2-2)	2 (1-1)	12 (4-8)	8 (4-4)	Hughes/Bruce 3	- 9	31,585	-29.6	wwwd	Liverpool (h 18/10)
7 (+7) Arsenal	11	17	+2	5 (4-1)	2 (0-2)	4 (2-2)	14 (8-6)	12 (7-5)	Wright 7, Merson 2	- 18	24,357	-23.7	dwldw	Nottm For (a 17/10)
8 (+2) Ipswich	11	16	+2	3 (2-1)	7 (4-3)	1 (0-1)	16 (10-6)	14 (7-7)	Wark 5, Kwameya 3	1 13	17,906	+25.4	dwdw	Chelsea (a 17/10)
9 (-2) Middlesbrough	10	15	+5	4 (3-1)	3 (2-1)	3 (1-2)	19 (13-6)	14 (7-7)	Wilkinson 5, Slaven 4	- 9	18,088	+23.0	dwld	Tottenham (a 17/10)
10 (-2) Leeds	11	14	+1	3 (3-0)	5 (2-3)	3 (0-3)	19 (12-7)	18 (4-14)	Cantona/Chapman 6	- 11	27,806	-5.6	dwld	Sheff Utd (h 17/10)
11 (+4) Oldham	11	14	0	3 (3-0)	5 (2-3)	3 (1-2)	19 (13-6)	19 (9-10)	Sharp 4	- 10	11,993	-20.5	dwldw	Sheff Wed (a 17/10)
12 (-3) Chelsea	11	13	0	3 (1-2)	4 (3-1)	4 (1-3)	14 (4-10)	14 (4-10)	Harford 5	- 13	20,959	+12.2	wtdw	Ipswich (h 17/10)
13 (-2) Man City	11	12	0	3 (1-2)	3 (3-0)	5 (2-3)	13 (9-4)	13 (9-4)	White 7, Vokic 2	1 10	24,863	-10.2	wwd	C Palace (a 17/10)
14 (-2) Sheff Wed	11	12	-2	3 (2-1)	3 (1-2)	5 (2-3)	13 (8-5)	15 (8-7)	Hirst 5, Bright 2	- 9	26,180	-11.4	dwld	Oldham (h 17/10)
15 (-3) Everton	11	12	-3	3 (1-2)	3 (1-2)	5 (2-3)	10 (8-2)	13 (5-8)	Beardley 3	- 3	23,248	+0.4	dwld	Coventry (h 17/10)
16 (+3) Liverpool	11	12	-4	3 (3-0)	3 (2-1)	5 (2-3)	14 (8-6)	18 (9-10)	Wallace/Molloy 3	- 11	32,942	-5.3	dwldw	Man Utd (a 18/10)
17 (+3) Sheff Utd	11	12	-4	3 (3-0)	3 (2-1)	5 (1-4)	11 (5-6)	18 (9-9)	Deane 4	- 19	20,297	-8.1	dwldw	Leeds (a 17/10)
18 (-2) Southampton	11	10	-5	2 (1-1)	4 (2-2)	5 (2-3)	9 (4-5)	14 (5-9)	Le Tissier 3, Dawie 2	1 15	15,727	+11.8	dwld	Wimbledon (h 17/10)
19 (-2) Tottenham	11	10	-10	2 (2-0)	4 (2-2)	4 (1-3)	9 (7-2)	19 (9-13)	Durkin/Sherringham 3	1 12	26,351	-5.1	wwd	Middlesbrough (h 17/10)
20 (-1) C Palace	11	9	-4	1 (0-1)	6 (3-3)	4 (2-2)	15 (7-7)	19 (10-9)	Armstrong/McGoldrick 4	1 10	13,635	-22.6	dwld	Man City (h 17/10)
21 (-3) Wimbledon	11	9	-4	2 (1-1)	3 (1-2)	6 (4-2)	14 (7-7)	17 (10-8)	Holdsworth/Earle 3	1 13	6,550	-5.1	dwld	Soton (a 17/10)
22 (0) Nottm For	10	6	-11	1 (1-0)	3 (1-2)	6 (2-4)	10 (3-7)	21 (5-16)	Bennister 4	- 8	19,176	-19.2	dwld	Arsenal (h 17/10)

TRANSFERS: Predrag Radosavljevic (Everton) from St Louis Storm, £100,000. LOANS: David McDonald (Tottenham) to Brentford.

□ All statistics refer to Premier League matches only.

SHOULD football be simply a source of entertainment or a business? Ask an Arsenal supporter, for example, and he might tell you that he wants to see Arsenal entertained for his pocket-money every week, to see a victory crowned with a dash of showmanship. Ask George Graham, the Arsenal manager, and he will tell you that the bottom line is just winning. In the end, it is Arsenal's manager, not the man's land is Anders Johansson. The debate about the relative merits and shortcomings of the irrepressible Swede has raged about this corner of North London of late just as vigorously as membership of the ERM has divided opinions in Germany. Would Arsenal do better to be entertained every week? Why isn't he in the team every week? Is he happy with the situation?

NOTTINGHAM Forest may be down, but they are not yet down (Peter Ball writes). They showed commendable spirit on Saturday, twice coming from behind at Maine Road, Stuart Pearce earning them a point with his side's second equaliser seven minutes from time. McKinnon had scored the first, his first goal since his arrival from Dundee United.

But if the spirit is willing, the defence is weak. Rick Holden with his first goal for Manchester City and Fitzroy Simpson exploiting their vulnerability to end City's run of four games without a goal.

There seems little doubt that Brian Clough desperately needs a centre half, but it will not be Mark Wright. A report yesterday said Forest were saving second thoughts after agreeing a fee of £1.8 million with Liverpool for the much-criticised England centre-half. Yesterday Peter Robinson, the Liverpool chief executive, said that the fee would be totally unkind to the founder.

In the United States, are showing signs of needing defensive reinforcements as Ipswich own beat them 4-2. Perhaps their minds were with their managing director, Bill Iothery, in Zurich, but Ipswich pulled them apart.

John Wark recalled the days when he was a leading scorer from midfield with two goals, a free kick and a penalty, as

There is no question that Limpar's impish skill can win matches. It did on Saturday against Chelsea, for example, as he came on with five minutes left and the match heading for a draw. A shimmy of the hips, a teasing cross and, with his first touch, Limpar had set up Ian Wright for the winner. The problem is that nobody is sure whether he can do it all the time.

The crowd want him to, desperately, and demand he be given the chance to try. Graham, ever the pragmatist, still has his doubts. Experience has taught him there is no substitute for consistency. Limpar's cameo had both camps claiming events had proved their cases.

Perhaps, on this occasion, the decision, in the words of Ian Porterfield, the Chelsea manager, "We didn't want Limpar to come on" was admitted. "We would have been much happier if he had stayed on the bench."

Nevertheless, with Limpar

Equaliser rest a lift

well as providing the cross for Dazzell's flying header.

The pace of Kiwomya and the skill of Goddard added to Leeds's discomfort. The first goal set the tone, Kiwomya being allowed a free header inside the six-yard box from corner.

Queens Park Rangers also scored four, defeating **Tottenham Hotspur** 4-1. Terry Venables, Tottenham's chief executive, said at the weekend that as the rebuilding after the departure of Gascoigne, Stewart and Linkester went on "there are a few fresh faces and at the moment I am attempting to put a defence together".

Saturday's display suggested he still has some way to go. QPR dismembered his expensively assembled back four, Sinton providing the crosses for a collector's item, a header from Ray Wilkins, and a tap-in by an "unmarked" Gary Pearce, who also added the fourth. The other scorer was Ian Holloway. The win leaves the west London team fourth.

Coventry City are immediately above them after their second successive home draw, this time 2-2 with **Crystal Palace**. Coventry led twice through Pearce and Gallacher, but Palace replied through Coleman and McGoldrick. Palace are twentieth, one point behind Tottenham and Southampton, who lost 2-0 at **Sheffield United**.

off the field, Arsenal began looking elsewhere for inspiration. Initially, it came from Paul Merson who, with a vision beyond most of his colleagues, gave them a tenth-minute lead with a brilliant delicate chip from 25 yards.

As Merson then faded, so Wright came to the fore, providing some badly needed width. However he, Smith and Campbell all missed gifted opportunities to extend the lead before the interval.

Yet Arsenal were even more profligate after the break. Chelsea looked as safe as a ten in a typhoon as, time and again, they allowed their hosts to clear sight of goal. When Hall's naive tackle on Campbell handed Arsenal a penalty, they missed that as well. Dixon's feeble effort being saved by Hitchcock.

Slowly, the realisation dawned on Chelsea that they might salvage something. Townsend was denied a captain's penalty appeals were unjustly ignored, and then

Wise, unmarked, stooped to head home Harford's cross. Seven minutes from the end, Stuart was denied a second by another fine Seaman save.

Enter, at last, Limpar. He strode to the centre circle, then

urined to his favourite him-
wings. Jensen duly found him
and, after leaving Spackman
on his heels, Limpap drilled in
a low cross that Wright met
with an outstretched foot.

Afterwards, Graham
praised his team's perfor-
mance, skirted round any
suggestion he should have
played Limpap from the start
and praised Wright for his
good behaviour on the day.
Perhaps he, like most of us,
missed the alleged gesture by
the Arsenal man after his
winning goal that prompted a
Chelsea supporter to make a
complaint to police.

ARSENAL: D. Seaman, I. Dixon, N.
Winterburn, D. Hillier, S. Bould, A. Adams, J.
Jensen, I. Wright, A. Smith, P. Jensen (sub: A.
Limpap), N. Campbell.
CHELSEA: K. McWhinchoe, G. Hall, F. Sinclair,
A. Townsend, D. Lee, M. Donaghy (sub: G.
Sutton), E. Newton, R. Flack, M. Pearson, N.
Spackman, D. Wiles.
Referee: K. Morrison



Limpap: cameo



Shrewsbury survive test of character

TO PUT it politely, Julian Dicks has an attitude problem. The West Ham captain and left back was dismissed for the second time this season in the 87th minute at Molineux yesterday.

It was his second first division game back in the side since returning from suspension, incurred for a sending-off at Newcastle, and he was booked last week. He is being watched by several Premier League scouts and West Ham are resisting transfer bids. At the moment, though, he looks more a liability than an asset.

Dicks was fortunate to be only booked for illegal tackles

on Bull and Rankine in the first half. His duel with Bull had developed into the game's main sub-plot and must have produced several bumps and bruises by the time the pair were shown yellow cards for following a touchline skirmish midway through the second period.

Red was to follow when Bull peeled off Dicks to put himself clean through only to be brought down by a late challenge from behind.

Villain of the piece he may have been but Dicks also played a central role in a desperately disappointing match. He was responsible for forcing Stowell, the Wolves goalkeeper, into his first save of the afternoon from a speculative 20-yard shot in the 60th minute.

At the other end, it was

significant that Miklesko's most important save resulted more by accident than design. It came in the opening minutes when Birch's intended cross swerved wickedly and was tipped over the bar by the West Ham goalkeeper.

To add to a long-balanced system requires accurate crossing and Wolves looked deeply flawed in this respect. It also seemed a shame to bypass a midfield containing players possessing the ability of Coolen and Birch.

On this evidence, the Premier League could well do without new sides. And maybe Dieks, too.

BLOOMFHAMPTON WANDERERS:
Wolverhampton Wanderers
Barnet, Bury, Colchester United,
Crewe Alexandra, Exeter City,
Gillingham, Ipswich Town,
Leeds United, Luton Town,
Millwall, Notts County, Peterborough United,
Preston North End, Queens Park Rangers,
Sheff Wed, Shrewsbury Town, Southampton,
Stoke City, Sunderland, Swindon Town,
Tottenham Hotspur, Watford, Wimbledon,
Wolves

WEST HAM UNITED:
Aston Villa, Barnet, Birmingham City,
Blackburn Rovers, Bolton Wanderers,
Cardiff City, Charlton Athletic, Chelsea,
Derby County, Everton, Fulham, Huddersfield Town,
Ipswich Town, Leeds United, Leicester City,
Luton Town, Manchester City, Manchester United,
Middlesbrough, Millwall, Newcastle United,
Norwich City, Nottingham Forest, Oxford United,
Peterborough United, Portsmouth, Preston North End,
Queens Park Rangers, Reading, Sheffield Wednesday,
Sheff Utd, Southampton, Stoke City, Swansea City,
Sunderland, Tottenham Hotspur, Tranmere Rovers,
Walsley, Watford, Wimbledon, Wolverhampton Wanderers

WOLVES:
Aston Villa, Barnet, Birmingham City,
Blackburn Rovers, Bolton Wanderers,
Cardiff City, Charlton Athletic, Chelsea,
Derby County, Everton, Fulham, Huddersfield Town,
Ipswich Town, Leeds United, Leicester City,
Luton Town, Manchester City, Manchester United,
Middlesbrough, Millwall, Newcastle United,
Norwich City, Nottingham Forest, Oxford United,
Peterborough United, Portsmouth, Preston North End,
Queens Park Rangers, Reading, Sheffield Wednesday,
Sheff Utd, Southampton, Stoke City, Swansea City,
Sunderland, Tottenham Hotspur, Tranmere Rovers,
Walsley, Watford, Wimbledon, Wolverhampton Wanderers

IT WAS downhill all the way for Shrewsbury Town at Underhill on Saturday, literally in the first half and metaphorically in the second half.

Kicking down the slope, they scored two goals and might have had more; kicking up it, they conceded two and had Edwards, their goalkeeper, to thank for holding Barnet to a 2-2 draw.

Still, a point is more than any other third division has managed to take from a visit to Barnet this season and John Bond, the Shrewsbury manager, was pleased with his performance, even though he missed the best of it.

He was delayed in central London on his way to the ground and had to listen on his car radio for news of the first half.

His team arrived on time and soon made an impression, taking the lead after two minutes. A clever pass from Clark released Summerfield on the right and his low cross was met decisively by Griffiths.

Rain and a slippery pitch made the slope all the more influential and Shrewsbury took further advantage half an hour later. Griffiths pursued lost cause across the edge of the Barnet penalty area and succeeded in knocking the ball into the air. It fell on Summerfield, whose 18-yard shot was low and precise.

Barnet were fortunate to reach the interval only two goals down but, with the slope on their side thereafter, went

the better team. In the space of four minutes on the hour, they could have put the issue beyond doubt.

First, Carter's slick receiver Bull, who rounded the you-keeper to make it 2-1. Within a minute, Showler dribbled his way past Haylock and Smith to cross perfectly for Bull to head the equaliser.

Bull might have had a three minute hat-trick. Within seconds of the restart, his powerful shot brought a wonderful save from Edwards at the foot of the post. Barely has the goalkeeper scrambled for his feet than Lowe's headed looper over him and on to the bar.

There were further chances for both sides but none were taken. "They could have had more goals and we might have had one at the end but it was good game," Bond said.

The draw left the teams where they started. Barnet second and Shrewsbury third. York City maintained a four point lead at the top by drawing with Doncaster Rovers.

West Bromwich Albion lost to Burnley, their second defeat of the season, but retained the leadership of the second division. Leyton Orient beat Bolton Wanderers to move into second place.

BARNET: G. Phillips, D. Howell, G. Cooper, M. Bowley, D. Barnett, D. Horton, D. Poyser, M. Carter, M. C. Ball, P. Lawton (sub. B. Storti). P. Showler

SHREWSBURY: T. Bowen, P. Edwards (sub. J. Wardell), J. Lynch, D. Spink, M. Blake, M. Barnham, C. Fair (sub. P. Naylor), M. Smith, C. Griffiths, S. Scurr

RELEASERS: G. Cooney

WHEN it comes to deciding the first division's buy of the season, Craig Maskell should be assured there are no short-lists (Louise Taylor writes).

The Swindon Town forward — bought from Reading for £240,000 during the summer — has now scored 11 goals this season. The most recent two arrived at the County Ground against Westford on Saturday, helping Swindon towards a 3-1 victory after they were losing 1-0.

Victory lifted Glenn Hoddle's side into fourth place behind Derby County climbed to mid-table after prevailing 3-1 at Cambridge United, where Simpson, twice, and Gabbadini were the scorers.

County may have been slow starters but two successive league wins suggest that a £10 million investment in players might yet be vindicated.

Southern United were defeated by Derby last week but they fared better against second-placed **Charlton Athletic** at Upton Park by drawing 1-1.

Tramex Rovers used to be the division's low-scoring draw specialists last season but their decision to abandon a safety first sweeper system in favour of a more positive approach has already earned John King's team 18 points — the same number as Swindon — this term.

They collected the last three when they beat **Bristol City** 3-

O at Prenton Park, with two goals from Aldridge and one from Kevin, his Liverpool teammate. Aldridge's former employers, Everton, previously Nevie's, might be forgiven for wondering if they were wrong to part with them after all.

Whittingham claimed a hat-trick as **Porthmouth** punished **Luton Town** 4-1 at Kenilworth Road while Goodie man collected two goals in **Sunderland's** 2-0 win against **Millwall** at Roker Park.

Time could be running out for Mel Machin, the **Barnsley** manager. The Yorkshire club, who sold Smith, their centre back, to North County on Friday, stay bottom after losing 2-1 at **Leicester City**.

[illegible]

MONDAY OCTOBER 5 1992

Nilsmark keeps cool in the Dalmahoy cauldron to secure famous victory for Europe's women golfers

Davies leads charge to Solheim Cup victory

By Mitchell Platt
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

EUROPE'S women golfers achieved a famous victory when they overcame the United States 11½ to 6½ in the Solheim Cup at Dalmahoy, near Edinburgh, yesterday.

They demolished their opponents with a performance that smacked of courage and conviction. Mickey Walker, the captain, had predicted that Europe could win but she, too, was wide and wet-eyed with pride following an encounter of epic proportions. United States won the only time the competition was held previously.

Walker was naturally buoyant as she held the Solheim Cup. "Everybody knows now that we have players who can beat the best in the world, and by heck they can't ignore us," she said. "Our credibility has been established, and that means so much. It is unbelievable how much we have come on since the first match two years ago."

"More of our players have since had the chance to develop their talent in the toughest school in the world, and the Americans have seen that they are no better in what they can do with a golf ball. I'm sure the Americans thought that they would win comfortably again, but our spirit was fantastic."

The spirit was evident on a raw, grey day and it came to the fore at 1.58pm when Catrin Nilsmark secured Europe's success. The Swede had for two days cajoled her teammates as a spectator but, in her first Solheim Cup match, she had the satisfaction of sinking the winning putt. She holed from two feet to beat the redoubtable Meg Mallon on the 16th green, which was immediately invaded by what appeared to be the entire membership of the WPGA European Tour.

They had good cause to celebrate. The Americans arrived with an aura of invincibility. Their ten players have between them won 147 tournaments and £13.2 million and they fully expected to retain the cup. The bookmakers made them the 6-1 on favourites.

Yet Europe demonstrated, by building a 4½-3½ lead in the fourfoursomes and the fourballs, seven of which went to the 18th hole, that they were not overawed by lofty reputations. Indeed, they were oozing confidence as they set out in search of five points from the ten singles.



Setting off the celebrations: Nilsmark, left, celebrates her victory over Mallon to clinch the Solheim Cup for Europe, setting off scenes of celebration among the team and supporters on the 16th green

Walker looked to the skies for a little assistance and it soon came in the shape of a sharp shower, which slowed the greens. The Europeans were not bothered, one way or another, but the Americans had hoped for quicker putting surfaces. They will remember this as the squelchy cup, rather than the Solheim Cup.

Laura Davies, however, was in her element. She is, arguably, the best golfer in the world and Walker had no hesitation in putting her out first. Davies required less than three hours to provide the first

inspirational point, and to retain her 100 per cent record in the match.

Davies was brought back to all square when Brandie Burton holed from ten feet for an eagle three at the 9th. Davies holed from five feet and eight feet to halve the 10th and 11th, and hit a superb five-iron to five feet at the next to go one up with a birdie. Then she coaxed home putts of 15 feet and 25 feet to win both the 14th and 15th holes with birdies, and Burton conceded to her at the 16th. Davies was six under par.

Helen Alfredsson, of Sweden, earned Europe their next point 16 minutes later, at 12.45, by beating Danielle Ammaccione 4 and 3. She was annoyed with herself as early as the 4th for missing from four feet for a winning birdie, but she played flawless golf to be three under when the match ended at the 15th.

Europe had been in the driving seat since noon, at which time they led in eight of the matches, and at 1.10 Irish Johnson, whose striking was of the highest calibre, beat

Patty Sheehan 2 and 1. Her five-wood approach to the 14th gave her a putt of 25 feet, which she made for her fourth birdie.

Walker was by now convinced that Europe would win and Pam Wright, who had been two down after three holes, took them to within one point of glory when she overcame Pat Bradley 4 and 3. The time was 1.30. Nilsmark duly obliged. She had gone three up with an eagle at the 11th. Mallon could not erase the deficit and Nilsmark threw her hands high in the air with joy at the 16th. Liselotte Neumann and Dale Reid subsequently won their matches to give Europe victory by a convincing margin.

Alice Miller, who took over at the helm for the United States because Kathy Whitworth, the captain, had to return home, was less than charitable. "It has been a week of adversity," she said. "The crowds were very gracious, and the only discourtesy we felt was from the European team but that is part of the ball game as we expect it."

By Patricia Davies

COMETH the hour, cometh the Swede. Catrin Nilsmark, unsung, unheralded, unplayed until yesterday's singles, proved herself an inspirational captain's choice when she holed the putt that won the Solheim Cup for Europe on the 16th green at Dalmahoy. It triggered emotional scenes of unbounded joy as Nilsmark raised her arms in triumph, then took off at a sprint into the arms of her onrushing team-mates.

It was ironic that one of golf's most sensational results was secured by a player with no professional victories to her name, a girl from Gothenburg good-looking enough to have been chosen as her home town's winter Light Queen four years ago — "you bring light to all people," she explained, but a dark blank as far as the Americans were concerned.

Nilsmark, who is 25, has, in fact, won in the United States, eight years ago in the Junior Orange Bowl tournament in Florida, but Meg Mallon, her opponent yesterday, must have been surprised by the Swede's succession of "bra slugs". That translates, appropriately, into Scots as brow slugs, meaning that the woman, who gives the ball a good thump, hit a lot of good shots.

Having run around after everyone else's matches during the fourfoursomes and fourballs, Nilsmark decided to turn that potentially negative experience into a positive one. "I had no expectations, no fears," she said. "There were no holes with bad memories. I just went out to play every single shot as though it was the most important of my life."

She proved herself just one more inspiration on a team that was made up of inspired

performers, playing above and beyond the expectations of many people, if not of themselves. "I played out of my head today," Pam Wright, the Scot who had never played as a professional in an event at home before, said.

She lost two of the first three holes to Pat Bradley, winner of six major championships and an American golfing icon, but then Bradley three-putted the fourth, to lose the hole.

"That opened the door," Wright said afterwards. "I knew I'd been playing well and I was tired of losing. I knew I could beat Pat. I looked up and saw that sea of blue on the scoreboard and there was no way I was going to lose." Four birdies in the next five holes moved Wright into another world, the sort of zone that Bradley herself has inhabited in the past. But not yesterday.

Wright's win was Europe's

fourth and it set Nilsmark up for what will undoubtedly be her ultimate golfing moment, on a 16th green that took almost as big a hammering as the Americans. The Europeans danced all over it when Nilsmark won and they were there again when Dale Reid, in the bottom match, ambled up, two up, against Dottie Mochrie, acknowledged as the world No. 1. While Mochrie scurried about in the huge dip short of the green, Reid, safely on in two, calmly held court with the other Americans. Mochrie played on, in three. Reid rolled her own long putt dead — she thought it was in — and Mochrie could not hole hers.

There was more mayhem as Reid was enveloped. She enjoyed a long hug with her mother and received all well-wishers with aplomb. "I knew we'd win," she said, with the air of one who had never entertained any doubts.

Swede savours sweet moment

Gascoigne impresses

GRAHAM Taylor, the England manager, watched Paul Gascoigne play for an hour in Lazio's 5-2 victory over Parma in Rome yesterday and suggested that the midfielder player could return to international duty in the World Cup against Norway next week.

Taylor said: "For the first 30

minutes we saw glimpses of the old Gazza and if he plays 90 minutes in the cup on Wednesday, the chances are that he could get on for part of the game against Norway."

Diego Maradona created a goal on his league debut for Sevilla yesterday but his team lost 2-1 to Athletic Bilbao.

Leeds to play tie on Swiss soil

LEEDS United's protracted and controversial European Cup tie against VfB Stuttgart should be concluded in the Swiss Alps at the end of the week. The third game is likely to be staged in Basle or Bern on Friday or Saturday.

Confirmation of the venue and the date will come on Wednesday, but because the matter needs to be urgently resolved, tentative arrangements have already been made. Uefa's initial choice, Rotterdam, was rejected by the Dutch Football Association, which felt that the risks involved were too high and that the time was too short.

The Leeds board is to meet this morning to discuss whether or not to appeal against the decision taken by Uefa's control and disciplinary committee on Saturday night.

Stuttgart were then as close to

being eliminated as they were during their 4-1 defeat at Elland Road three days earlier.

Two of the four committee members believed that Leeds should have gone through into the second round to meet Rangers. They argued that Stuttgart, having broken the rules by choosing four foreigners in their squad for the second leg, should have been disqualified.

After almost five hours of deliberations, though, the other two committee members convinced their colleagues that the verdict in the unprecedented case should be more merciful. The penalty was the same as those previously imposed on clubs who have breached other regulations, a 3-0 defeat.

Since the English champions lost by the same margin

in the first leg, a third game is required. As expected, Uefa, football's European governing body, has found a convenient diplomatic solution which lies halfway between Leeds' sense of grievance and Stuttgart's relief and embarrassment. It is the German champions who have been reprieved.

Contrary to some reports, they admitted making the error only after a German source had contacted Leeds on Thursday afternoon. Stuttgart's dignity suffered further when they claimed that their opponents might be guilty of committing the same offence.

Speed, they suggested, had lost his right to be included as an assimilated player because he had been loaned to Cardiff City. If he had returned to a club in his native Wales within

the past five years, he would indeed have been considered as a foreigner, but no such move took place.

Stuttgart's pendant and inaccurate counter-attack brought them a fine of some £4,500. The Leeds representatives feel that the punishment for the greater crime might have been heavier. They were disappointed that they were not offered the support of the domestic authorities. Yet Graham Kelly, the Football Association chief executive, contacted Uefa and asked whether his presence would be either required or welcome. The response, on both counts, was negative.

However, the FA is prepared to postpone Leeds' Coca Cola Cup tie against Southampton United, which is scheduled for Wednesday night, at Elland Road. Leeds are already 4-1 ahead after the first leg, but will be permitted, if they so wish, to spare their players an additional fixture during so complicated and confusing a week.

The third game against Stuttgart must, presumably, be played by the end of the week. The following midweek is filled with World Cup qualifying ties and the second round of the European Cup is to take place a week later.

Graham Taylor, the England manager, who flew to Rome to check on the progress of Paul Gascoigne, will be without two players when his squad reports at Lilleshall on Thursday. Batty and Dorogio will doubtless be committed to club duties.

PAOK Salonika were expelled from the Uefa Cup and banned from European competition for the next two seasons after crowd violence occurred in their second round Uefa Cup match at home to Paris St Germain.

Newcastle stay on course for record

Brentford 1
Newcastle United 2

By Stuart Jones

NOT even the elements can hinder Newcastle United. During an afternoon when Griffin Park was transformed into a wind tunnel, the leaders of the first division extended their winning run to nine matches to stand five points clear of their nearest pursuers, Charlton Athletic with a game in hand.

Only two clubs have ever started with more successive victories. With another two, Newcastle would equal the mark set in 1960 by Tottenham Hotspur, the team that went on to win the double. With another four, they would match the feat achieved by Reading seven years ago.

Instead of ignoring the tantalising targets which lie ahead, their celebrated manager is pointing them out to his players. Before and after yesterday's game, Kevin Keegan positively encouraged Newcastle to claim for themselves a piece of history which he believes will not be surpassed for several generations.

"You've got the chance to put yourselves in the record books," he told them "and give not only your children but also your grandchildren something to be proud of, because this is a record which would stand for a long time." Their thirteenth fixture, incidentally, is to be staged at Sunderland's Roker Park.

Newcastle's fiercest rivals will doubtless be far more testing opposition than Brentford. Their manager, Phil Holder, acknowledged that his own moderate team was inhibited and too respectful.

Yet, in conditions more conducive to flying kicks, they might ultimately have rendered irrelevant Keegan's ambitious forecast.

Playing against the swirling wind, Newcastle took an early lead through Kelly. Although he and one or two of his colleagues appeared to be off-side as Howe launched the ball over Brentford's back four, he was allowed to run on and squeeze his shot in between Peyton and the near post.

Peacock, reacting first to the rebound when Lee's shot bounced down off the underside of the bar, added the second after the hour. "I thought that would kill them off," Keegan said. "But we had to fight for a victory I thought we had already earned."

Bilisset, Brentford's most competent individual, who had been denied by the expertise of Wright in the first half, reduced the deficit ten minutes from the end. By then Newcastle had appealed for three penalties, although at least one of them was a joke. "Sheedy went down in five monthly instalments," as Keegan put it.

He might not have been prepared to be so humorous if Brentford, in the closing minutes, had converted the most glaring opportunity of all. The culprit, who inexplicably veered away from goal after rounding the goalkeeper, was their substitute. On such a wild afternoon, he was named appropriately Gayle.

BRENTFORD: G. Peacock, B. Slatman, C. Hugson, K. Mann, J. Bates, S. Randle, M. Bennett, D. Stacey (capt. W. Marshall), K. Godwin (capt. M. Gayle), G. Bilisset, N. Smith.
NEWCASTLE UNITED: T. Wright, B. Vardon, J. Beardsley, L. O'Brien, K. Scott, S. Howe, P. Lee, G. Peacock, D. Kelly, I. Clark, S. Sheedy.
Referee: A. Gurn.

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Friends in need for Wright

By Peter Ball

IAN Wright's hopes of a trouble-free final match before joining the England football squad this week evaporated on Saturday when he was accused of making obscene gestures to the Chelsea supporters after his late goal at Highbury had won the game for Arsenal. On this occasion, however, help and sympathy may be at hand.

A police spokesman said that they would not be taking action, but the matter would be referred to the Football Association. The Match of the Day cameras did little to substantiate the accusation, however, and yesterday both the Football Association and his manager, George Graham, were eager to defend the player, who was warned last

week by Graham Taylor, the England manager, about the need to control his temper.

Wright was fined for spitting and making obscene gestures at Oldham last season, and he has been involved in ugly incidents with Wimbledon and Millwall players this season. But there have also been suspiciously recent that supporters of opposing clubs, having spotted a hand-wagon, are jumping onto it. Ten days ago he was accused by Millwall supporters of faking a blow from a coin, but subsequently a video film suggested that a coin had been thrown.

"If players are guilty of making obscene gestures it is something we strongly disapprove of, and we act on it," an FA spokesman said yesterday, "but sometimes you have to

question the motives of people who rush to come forward with complaints." The point was picked up by Graham. "We have no evidence of Ian making any sign to the crowd," he said.

With 31 goals in 40 matches for Arsenal, there is no doubt that Wright is one of the outstanding talents in a League swarming with journeymen. But his disciplinary record is appalling. He has been booked nine times since he joined Arsenal from Crystal Palace just over a year ago.

"He plays on a short fuse, he lives on a short fuse," Taylor said.

In future, he might be better advised to turn to his team mates to celebrate, rather than running to the crowd.

Arsenal win, page 27



LOOKS p5

How the coat
came back to
life: a long
story



LIFE & TIMES

MONDAY OCTOBER 5 1992

MODERN TIMES p6

Danger man:
Michael
Jackson in
Bucharest



Put drama in your life

The curtain rises
on an exciting
offer to Times
readers

Today *The Times* launches a new club, The Theatre Club, and at the same time offers readers the chance to visit any one of 200 theatres throughout the country with two tickets for the price of one.

Germany may have more opera houses, the Mediterranean more open-air cinemas, but Britain leads the field for the number and variety of its theatres. They can be long and narrow, converted from canal boats, in basements, in tents, up mountains of stairs; but the majority are the landmark buildings that adorn prime sites in all our cities and major towns.

In England, lowland Scotland and coastal Wales you are never far from a theatre. In America many communities are hundreds of miles from their nearest theatre, and some people never see the outside of one, let alone the inside. As numerous and as varied as the shows our theatres put on — thrillers, classics, farce, musicals, comedies old and new, Shakespeare's *Comedy of Errors*, reopening the restored Theatre Royal in Norwich next month.



Blair Wilson and Jennifer Chase in *Carmen Jones*

was written 400 years ago: Alan Ayckbourn completed his latest, *Time of My Life*, a few days before it opened in Scarborough last April.

Whenever a lavishly mounted production, generally a musical, collapses within a few weeks of its opening, the word goes round that the theatre is in crisis. Figures compiled for the Society of West End Theatre tell a different story. Attendances this year are 4 per cent up on 1991 and only 2 per cent down on the boom year of 1990. The death of theatre, like the end of the world, is often foretold but never arrives.

Broadly speaking, our theatres are of two kinds: producing theatres, mounting their own shows, and receiving theatres, taking them in from elsewhere. Both kinds are represented in The Theatre Club's opening offer. In Scotland the foremost producing theatres are the Glasgow Citizens and the Edinburgh Lyceum, with Edinburgh's Traverse Theatre (now in handsome new premises) the leader for smaller-scale shows. North Wales has Theatre Cymru at Mold, South Wales the Sherman Theatre in Cardiff.

In England theatregoers in Greater Manchester, the Midlands and, of course, London are spoiled for choice. They are well served in West Yorkshire and Liverpool. Among the receiving houses the Theatre Royal, Newcastle, takes in the Royal Shakespeare Company every winter after its Stratford season.

JEREMY
KINGSTON

TURN TO PAGE 4

There you will find details of how to obtain two tickets for the price of one — and how to join The Theatre Club

When the chaps won't have it

The 1922 Committee can make
or break a Tory prime minister.

Ronald Butt looks at its role

Ten days after the Conservative conference ends, the prime minister and members of the cabinet will be present at celebrations of an event in Tory history which has peculiar significance in the party's present circumstances. October 19 is the 70th anniversary of a meeting of all Conservative MPs at the Carlton Club which, defying the party's leaders, repudiated the coalition with Lloyd George's Liberals and provided the inspiration for the powerful and independent organisation of all Tory back benches, known ever since as the 1922 Committee.

Tory opinion had become intensely hostile to Lloyd George. He was deeply distrusted, there were policy differences and (over-riding the Conservative foreign secretary, Lord Curzon) he had recently brought Britain almost to the brink of war with Turkey. Lloyd George made the government look more like a one-man band than a coalition with a Conservative majority. Yet the Tory leaders had still agreed to go as a coalition into another general election — despite warnings that many independent Tory candidates would stand.

To prevent the threatened split, Austin Chamberlain, the Tory leader, decided to call a special meeting of all Conservative MPs to obtain a specific endorsement of a continued coalition. In a letter telling his fellow-coalitionists, Lord Birkenhead, that such a meeting might be necessary, he said that he had it in mind to tell the MPs "bluntly that they must either follow our advice or do without us, in which case they must find their own Chief and form a Government at once. They would be in a d-d fix".

In the event, it was Chamberlain and the other leaders who were in the fix. The party voted overwhelmingly to "do without" them. The principal argument advanced for continuing the coalition was that without it (the Liberals being split into two factions) Labour might edge into power. But on the morning of the crucial meeting, the news arrived that a by-election at Newport had been won by an independent Tory candidate called Reginald Clarry, with Labour second and the coalition Liberal at the bottom of the poll. The Tories could win on their own.

Many Tories, including Curzon,

had urged him to intervene against the coalition. The editor of *The Times*, Wickham Steed, had also written to warn Law that unless he did so "there would be no hope of maintaining the cohesion of the party". Law finally decided that (as he told the meeting) "if we follow Austin Chamberlain's advice our party will be broken... it will be a repetition of what happened after Peel passed the Corn Laws". To Law, the party's unity was paramount.

So the meeting voted by 185 to 88 against the coalition. Lloyd George immediately resigned as prime minister and Chamberlain as Conservative leader. The other Tory coalitionists went with him. In their place was installed what Churchill called the second eleven. Law became prime minister, the Tories won the next election with a large overall majority and within months Baldwin was prime minister in place of the mortally ill Bonar Law.

The new parliament included many Tories who had never been MPs before and a group of them (including Mr Clarry) set up the back bench 1922 Committee. Its purpose was to "render every assistance to the government and the party whips in their efforts to carry on the affairs of the nation upon the sound basis of Conservative principles". The phrase I have italicised seems almost to imply warning that support might not be given to a government which, in the committee's view, was not so acting.

At all events this spirit has been the one governing the parliamentary Conservative party ever since. At first the 1922 was simply a committee of some Tory MPs. But its influence grew and in 1925 it was extended to include all Tory back benches. (A suggestion that the reference to "1922" should be dropped from its title was rejected.) When the party is in power no ministers may attend its weekly meetings. But a whip is always present to provide a channel through which worries in the party can be conveyed to the government. The chairman of the 1922 always has access to the prime minister when it is necessary.

It is sometimes assumed that governments with their patronage, their whips and their threat of resigning on votes of confidence, can always count their followers. Yet in the Conservative party, the decisive power in a crisis lies with the back benches — with the same 1922 that broke Austin Chamberlain and now has the formal power to elect the leader.

It was the 1922 that ousted Edward Heath and made Margaret Thatcher leader, and it was the support of the 1922 that sustained her during her early years when she led a cabinet still stuffed with hostile ministers hankering after a return to Heathian policies. The back benches supported her because their majority agreed that



The power of the 1922 Committee: Chamberlain (left) resigned as Conservative leader, and Law became prime minister

there was no alternative to her policies except a return to those previously discredited. But eventually economic recession and the unpopular poll tax created the political climate in which she, too, was removed, after her apparently unconstructive way of handling the European Community provided a trigger.

The MPs of the 1922 listen to their constituents and respond "on the sound basis of Tory principles" and in the light of their own convictions. Sometimes they are frustrated. Great discontent with Harold Macmillan was expressed in the 1922 over his handling of the Profumo affair, his government's unpopular pay policy and his sacking of a third of the cabinet. But the issues were not fundamental enough to risk splitting the party, though the open criticism of his leadership probably put him in the frame of mind to see the opportunity afforded by temporary ill-health to retire soon after.

In the choice of his successor the 1922 was probably the principal influence: its executive voted decisively (in secret) for Lord Home after taking soundings. As the 1922 Committee chairman is reputed to have warned Rab Butler:

"The chaps won't have you." So, too, it was made clear to David Melfor recently, in a very different context, that the chaps of the 1922 wouldn't have him either, however much he clung to the prime minister's support. The political antennae of the 1922 are practised in registering the reactions of those they represent.

The 1922 also exerts influence on policy as well as over the fate of ministers and it has fought many vigorous battles to try to resist or amend legislation. When these do not concern fundamental matters, they usually end in some sort of compromise which does not wholly undermine the government's wishes, though a prime minister is usually wise to heed warnings from the 1922, as Mrs Thatcher should have done over the poll tax.

But the campaign being waged against the prime minister's intention to persist with the Maastricht treaty is different. The concern about the constitutional implications touch the fundamental principles of the party. Most of those who are worried are not "anti-Europe". They wish to stay in the community and in the single market. But they do not believe that either the British right to opt out of full monetary



union or the concept of "subsidiarity" (a "philosophical" rather than a "legal-constitutional" concept, as an impartial Commons library briefing sagely put it) is safeguarded enough against federalism.

There are times in the life of any party when an issue cannot be fudged. Perhaps as many as half the Tory party want sufficient guarantees for the preservation of national sovereignty against a super state to be clearly attached to the treaty. If Mr Major is to avoid a dangerous split in his party he must

come to a clear, candid and convincing understanding with them about what Maastricht is to mean.

The prime minister will this week listen to the Tory grass-roots at Brighton. But in the end it is the 1922 that he has to satisfy. It is the real source of the government's power between general elections. The events that brought the 1922 into being are a warning of the danger of ignoring this reality. The committee's special anniversary could hardly have fallen in a more appropriate year.

I.Q. 145 and Can't Remember?

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A ghost of a chance of sympathy

With three liquidations and 40 redundancies an hour, you can get compassion-fatigue. But as this cold gale continues to sweep the working scene, I heard one particularly poignant tale.

It concerns a teenager, until lately employed in an amusement park. His proud first job, until the recession deepened, was on the staff of the Haunted Castle. To be precise, his brief was to stand behind the door while the public were ushered in, to utter low moaning cries and occasionally to stroke an unsuspecting nape or bare arm with a rubber glove artfully filled with crushed ice.

He was good at the job, conscientious and inventive. He always remembered a Thermos of crushed ice to refill the glove mid-morning, practised his moaning at home and voluntarily extended his work responsibilities by devising an imitation cobweb to be held in the other hand and fluttered across the paying public's faces. He also took a first-aid course, in case the cobweb worked too well. And so for two years, day after summer day, he had stood at his post in the darkness, glad to be earning his keep — unlike most of his friends — and looking forward to another winter of at least part-time work, touching up the skulls with luminous paint and putting new elastic

WORKING LIFE: Libby Purves asks
why some jobs are considered a joke

Until the wind blew a bit chillier, the takings fell and the park laid him off. Bad enough to be a has-been ghost before your eighteenth birthday, but his problem was exacerbated — I have this from a friend of his aunt's — by the fact that whenever he told anybody, they fell about laughing. Even at the Jobcentre the girl giggled at his account of his previous responsibilities. At the YTS they said "I suppose you'll need ghost training, har har."

The boy responded with gloomy silence. He had been inside the job, and knew that it had its small but significant share of technique and dignity. Nothing had been scammed. He had never once been late, and the cobweb had been entirely his idea. Now, left broke and bored, he had to face everybody laughing at the idea of a redundant ghost: he must have felt like the man in the Graham Greene story whose father was killed when a pig fell on his head,



dreading the inevitable question: "I think in the end he married the first girl who instead of giggling said 'How ghastly!'"

Is it not always so? Certain jobs command unthinking respect from onlookers. When shipyard workers or nurses or miners are laid off, the press and public murmur of tragedy, lost tradition and skills down the waste-pipe. They elevate the redundant ones to glorious, statuesque tragedy like one of those effigies of Workers Breaking Chains which stand in Third World communist marketplaces. But when a circus makes its fire-eater redundant due to new public health regulations, headline-writers vie for the most flip response. Unfair.

Not a laugh, but a knowing sneer, greets another kind of job loss: the collapse of any business which puritanical Britons see as frivolous. The cold recessionary wind has blown off a lot of fairly ludicrous froth since 1989, and

vanished unmoored. What scope is there now for girls to dress up as promotional dancing cigarette-packets?

There are other kinds of frivolity. We know people who used to run shooting weekends for companies looking for classy corporate hospitality. Our friends did it very well, met a demand, and worked long hours: it was not their fault that suddenly no company can afford to chuck money up the wall in this pointless manner, and they went out of business. So did those other 1980s countryfolk, the "relocation agents" who in the now unthinkable property-grab boom, used to snap up houses for distant buyers sight unseen.

But do you feel the same about their staff as you do about shipyard workers and nurses? Of course you don't. Not even if I revealed that the cancelled ship was mainly going to carry Taiwanese dangle-dollies, or that the nurse worked exclusively on facelifts? Probably not. We are talking here, about knee-jerk sympathy: some workers are dignified and others are a joke. Alas for the unrecognised grief of the laid-off sagger-maker's bottom-knocker! Weep for the redundant Roly-polygram!

The moral of modern working life is that when you're laid off the roundabouts, you'd better make straight for the swings. And keep smiling.

THE DECISION TO...
J.P. 10/50

BIRMINGHAM: The Moscow Radio Symphony Orchestra gives the first of two symphony hall concerts under Vladimir Fedoseyev. The programme comprises Rimsky-Korsakov's symphonic suite *Sheherazade*, Martin's *Requiem* and Chopin's *Piano Concerto No. 2*. The orchestra will be joined by the soloists of the *Chopin* concert.

BIRMINGHAM: The nine-piece swing orchestra King's Rhythm and Blues Band, led by the tenor saxman and singer, begins a week-long residency at the Birmingham Hippodrome. The band's repertoire includes a lively blend of rhythm and blues drawn from the 1940s and 1950s.

BRIGHTON: The androgynous, low-voiced singer-songwriter, who is promising a less country-tinged image with his more recent work, begins a week-long residency at the Brighton Dome. The band's repertoire includes a lively blend of rhythm and blues drawn from the 1940s and 1950s.

COVENTRY: The Open Air Theatre production of *Les Misérables*, the first of two productions of the play, begins a week-long residency at the Coventry Theatre. The band's repertoire includes a lively blend of rhythm and blues drawn from the 1940s and 1950s.

COLOUMN AND MACHINERY: Sometimes witty but hollow study of two African painters who drink heavily and are now forgotten. Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 0JH. 1992. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm. 150mins.

DEATH AND THE MAIDEN: Ariel Dorfman's scorching psychological drama on the longing for revenge. Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 0JH. 1992. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm. 120mins.

FROM A JACK TO A KING: Witty and stylish version of Macbeth's climb to the top, set in a world of rock bands and packed with Siles. London, WC2 0JH. 1992. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm. 120mins.

GRAND HOTEL: Musical barbers' soap opera in the 1920s. National, Arden, 1992. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm. 120mins.

HAMLET: Alan Rickman in a fascinating new production. Riverside Studios, Croydon, Surrey. 1992. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm. 120mins.

THE INVISIBLE MAN: A chilling study of a man who disappears. Riverside Studios, Croydon, Surrey. 1992. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm. 120mins.

IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY: Larkins in the hospital common room; matriarch outwits doctor. Riverside Studios, Croydon, Surrey. 1992. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm. 120mins.

THE JUDITH: A new production. Riverside Studios, Croydon, Surrey. 1992. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm. 120mins.

THE MADNESS OF GEORGE III: Nigel Hawthorne in a new production. Riverside Studios, Croydon, Surrey. 1992. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm. 120mins.

THE MADRAS HOUSE: Roger Allam in a new production. Riverside Studios, Croydon, Surrey. 1992. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm. 120mins.

NEW RELEASES: *BITTER MOON* (18): Sexual games on an ocean liner. Propaganda, 1992. *COLOURS ON COLUMBUS* (PG): Unsettling portrait of the explorer. 1992. *CITY OF JOY* (12): American director's take on the city. 1992.

CINEMA GUIDE: *Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and elsewhere. Includes: *BITTER MOON* (18), *COLOURS ON COLUMBUS* (PG), *CITY OF JOY* (12).*

CURRENT: *LES AMANTS DU PONT NEUF* (18): French film about love and war. 1992. *THE JUDITH* (18): A new production. 1992.

BOB ROBERTS (18): Lively spoof on the life of a man who has been in the U.S. Senate. 1992. *THE MADNESS OF GEORGE III* (18): Nigel Hawthorne in a new production. 1992.

HOUSEFITTER (PG): Golden Hare's new production. 1992. *THE MADRAS HOUSE* (18): Roger Allam in a new production. 1992.

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TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Karl Knight

ASIAN: For whom it was written. Warwick Arts Centre, University of Warwick. 1992. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm. 120mins.

LEEDS: Opera North presents Patrick Mason's efficient and effective production of Verdi's opera *Il Trovatore*. Leeds Opera House. 1992. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm. 120mins.

LEEDS: As part of the European Arts Festival, children's theatre company Theatre for Young People presents *The Boy Who Swam Down the River*. Leeds Opera House. 1992. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm. 120mins.

COVENTRY: The Open Air Theatre production of *Les Misérables*, the first of two productions of the play, begins a week-long residency at the Coventry Theatre. The band's repertoire includes a lively blend of rhythm and blues drawn from the 1940s and 1950s.

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LONDON: Peter Maxwell Davies conducts the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in a programme that combines his own *Concerto for Violin and Orchestra*, with *Sonata for Violin and Piano*, and the first performance of a concerto from Act 1 of the ballet *Caroline Mathilde* with that of Sibelius (*Tapiola* and the *Violin Concerto*, with Tamsin Little the soloist). Royal Hall, South Bank, SE1 0JH. 1992. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm. 120mins.

LONDON: Alfred Jarry's satirical tale *Ubu* — a biting satire of power and corruption, a lot of schoolboy nonsense, depending on how receptive you are to Jarry's language — is reworked by composer Andrew Tooley in this new opera for Music Theatre Wales. Michael Rutherford conducts. Not, apparently, suitable for children. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 0JH. 1992. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm. 120mins.

SOUTHAMPTON: Arthur Smith and Chris England's comedy *An Evening With Gary Lineker* is a not particularly inspired but is enjoying an extended run in the West End, and is now touring into the spring. Set in a Mayfair hotel on the eve of England's World Cup semi-final against Germany, the comedy pays tribute to the footballer and to those who live with him. Mayflower Theatre, Commercial Road, SO1 1JH. 1992. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, 4pm. 120mins.

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Ringside drama packs a punch

MYSELF, I have had a clear attitude to the noble art of boxing ever since being floored by a fellow ten-year-old as we strove for gold in what was weirdly called the paperweight class. But there are civilised people of both sexes who find a fascination in its blend of savagery and skill. Joyce Carol Oates expressed that ambivalence in her study of boxing, and Lynda La Plante did the same last night in her *Seconds Out* (BBC1). Even 1, the paperweight duffer, found myself sharing the excitement her play generated.

As Plante goes, Lynda has less in common with shoots and buds than with the mental monsters invoked by those curious signs sometimes seen on motorways. Indeed, the BBC could helpfully include such a warning among her plays' credits: "La Plante crossing". *Prime Suspect* was tough, aggressive stuff, and so is her current series, *Chances*. Nor was *Seconds Out* in danger of understating the brutality of the boxing trade.

The play opened with the crunch of glove on flesh, followed by the crash of flesh on floor, and then settled into the tale of big, good-natured Murray (Steven Waddington), who had a chance of advancing to the national finals in the Albert Hall. Unluckily, he had upset the fly young promoter — in Colum Convey's performance the of chap that seems always to wear a tuxedo and talk Cockney through his nose — who was trying to steal him from the oldsters (

Kander and Ebb's latest musical, *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, is about to hit London. Clive Davis watched the show in Toronto, and talked to its creators

Prison is a cabaret, old chum

Just as every modern city has its McDonald's, so it sometimes seems any metropolis worthy of the name has played host to Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Phantom of the Opera*. Toronto this summer was no exception. Theatre-goers queued for the stage equivalent of a Big Mac big and gaudy and strangely lacking in substance. Yet the most impassioned conversation in the city's theatrical circles, concerned the world premiere of another musical, a decidedly unorthodox mix of stark realism and camp fantasy, a show set in a brutal South American prison, with a story about a gay window dresser and his cell-mate, a left-wing revolutionary.

On the face of it, it is the sort of musical that is guaranteed to enjoy the shortest of runs. Not so this time. *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, an adaptation of Manuel Puig's ambitious, multi-layered novel (later turned into a successful film) may turn out to be the hit of the season when it opens in London this week.

The production rests partly on the commercial track record of the production team. Hal Prince (who also directed *Phantom*) is not known for hitching his name to flops. Nor is the librettist Terrence McNally, author of *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*. *Kiss* also boasts an old-fashioned, larger-than-life star in Chita Rivera, the actress and singer who shot to fame in the original production of *West Side Story*. And above all there are the music and lyrics of John Kander and Fred Ebb, the duo responsible for *Cabaret* — yet another Prince production.

Even so, *Kiss* nearly disappeared into the void long before reaching the stage. The original version, mounted as a workshop project with a different cast two years ago, was regarded as a failure even by the authors themselves. They felt the lavish fantasy sequences overshadowed the central plot. Worse still, although it was explicitly advertised as a work-in-progress,

the production was given a downbeat review by the powerful *New York Times* critic Frank Rich.

Normally, a thumbs-down from that source buries a musical. But this team pressed on, revamping the show and eventually obtaining backing from a Canadian producer, Garth Drabinsky. Hence the Toronto premiere. If the London performances go as well as expected, a New York opening will follow.

Puig's novel, first published in the mid-1970s, is not a conventional best-seller. Most of the text consists of protracted dialogues between the two prisoners: the effeminate Molina and the puritanical, dogma-spouting activist Valentín. A modern-day Sheherazade, Molina helps to distract his companion by weaving stories inspired by his favourite romantic films. The men, who initially have nothing in common, gradually come together.

The book reached a wider audience through Hector Babenco's low-key film adaptation, with William Hurt delivering an Oscar-winning performance as Molina. The musical adaptation is markedly different and arguably more coherent. Whereas the screen version was constructed around two wildly contrasting storylines — the prison sequences and the scenes set in the never-never land of film noir — the stage production uses music and dance in order to illustrate the inner lives of the central characters.

Kander and Ebb were on another of their fine-tuning missions when they flew into Toronto in August. A few doors away in the same hotel, McNally had his typewriter unpacked on the table, ready for more rewrites. Much of their attention was focussed on clarifying Rivera's role as Azura, the exotic temptress who dwells in Molina's subconscious.

The idea for the musical came from Ebb. He recalls that when he first mentioned the project to



No fetters for a vivid imagination: one of the fantasy scenes from Kander and Ebb's *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, opening this week at the Shaftesbury Theatre

Prince, all he had to do to win him over was to mention the title (the "spider woman", played by Rivera, is a symbol for death). The process of adaptation was far more difficult. "The workshop production had problems," Ebb explains, "because, like the movie, it had these two strands side by side. It's hard, when you have a strong central story, to get interested in a rather silly romance. It seemed inconsequential."

The fact is, now I hardly remember the movie. When you put a musical together you just say "These are the new rules." You have to add extra elements, otherwise you haven't done anything."

Puig, who died two years ago, would probably have approved, in

any case. An Argentine who worked at the Cinecittà film studios in Rome before settling in New York in the early 1960s, he was exceptionally enthusiastic about the workshop version. "He had no inhibitions about allowing us to make changes to the story," Ebb says. "He actually told me: 'You must forget about the book.' He was a fabulous little man. He was funny, he was dear and he was outrageous." Kander butts in at this point: "He was Molina."

Kander and Ebb have been a song-writing team for 30 years. For much of their career they have been regarded as polished song and dance journeyman, always on hand to stitch together a show for Frank Sinatra or their old friend Liza

Minnelli. Yet they have also been attracted to unusual political topics. Their first musical, after all, was *Flora, The Red Menace*, a piece about an ingenue (played by Minnelli) who is persuaded by her boyfriend to join the Communist party. In *Cabaret*, their next show, they successfully recreated the cynical Berlin of the Brecht-Weill era. Kurt Weill's widow Lotte Lenya appeared in the original New York production.

Though some critics may see *Kiss of the Spider Woman* as an extension of these themes, Kander steers clear of any such discussion: "People described *Cabaret* as a political musical, but I don't think we did. It was just something happening in a highly political

atmosphere. Our only aim is to move people and entertain them." The two men live within four blocks of each other in New York. When they are working on a project, Kander goes to Ebb's house each morning to sit at the piano. Most of their songs are built up line by line. It is a slow, piecemeal business which sometimes yields unexpected results. Their most popular song, "New York, New York", for instance, might never have seen the light of day without the help of Robert De Niro.

Kander explains that they originally wrote a different, "lighter" version of the song for Martin Scorsese's film *New York, New York*. At that stage it was intended to be a minor number.

During production, however, De Niro took Scorsese aside. "De Niro felt that the musical numbers should be re-jigged," says Kander, "and that 'New York, New York' should be the main number instead of our other song, 'The World Goes Round'. We walked away thinking 'How dare he? What does he know about songs?' And then we went off and wrote one of the best songs we ever did. So it's really thanks to De Niro. I can't even remember that first version now."

Fred Ebb breaks into a smile. "I don't either."

© Kiss of the Spider Woman previews from Thursday at the Shaftesbury Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2 (071-379 5399), and opens on October 20.



Follow the subway lines

Poetry thrives on paradox, nowhere more so than in New York City. Verses by Whitman, Emily Dickinson, Yeats, and the contemporary poet Lucille Clifton are now decorating all 6,000 subway cars in the largest transit system in America — one more often associated with filth and violence than the delights of poetry.

New York's "Poetry in Motion", launched last week with 12,000 posters like the one above, joins a trans-continental clutch of similar programmes, from the London

Judith Chernaik celebrates the arrival of poetry on New York's public transport

Underground to (most recently) Stockholm. But New York is a special case: the quintessential "melting pot" of languages and special-interest groups, and a city in which public services are subjected to stresses beyond the imagination of city dwellers elsewhere.

New York is always on the brink of collapse, and New Yorkers have become hardened to sights that in other

cities would suggest the social dislocations of war. Respectable commuters tend to bury their heads in their newspapers, desperate to avoid eye contact with the unfortunates who have taken up semi-permanent residence in the subway. Most passengers also have a highly-developed alertness to danger, quite at odds with the reading of poetry.

But the poems have been chosen with a fine eye to the special conditions of New York life. Yeats's "When you are old and grey and full of sleep" is the favourite poem of the young Brooklyn College graduate in the Transit Authority who is responsible for the programme. Yet Yeats has probably also been included because he is Irish — like one-third of New York's population. Lucille Clifton's "let there be new flowering / in the fields" is not an obvious choice for an urban setting; but as a well-established African-American poet (and a woman) she too meets compelling ethnic criteria, as well as offering sentiments with which all New Yorkers will fervently agree:

let the war be won
let love be at the end

Walt Whitman is America's poet of democracy, but he is above all a Brooklyn poet, and "Crossing Brooklyn Ferry" an essential New York poem, with special resonance for New Yorkers homeward bound at rush hour, when the D train, packed with bodies pressed as closely as any lower could wish, crosses the East River into Brooklyn:

Flood-tide below me! I see you face to face!
Clouds of the west — sun there half an hour high — I see you also face to face.

In the centenary year of his death, Whitman is more alive to his fellow New Yorkers than he would have dreamt possible. And it seems appropriate that the New York Transit Authority should enable him to speak directly to new residents.

And you that shall cross from shore to shore years hence are more to me.
And more in my meditations, than you might suppose.

Unlike Whitman, Emily Dickinson had no desire to embrace humanity, and the most risky choice (to this ex-New Yorker) is her "Hope" that perches in the soul. Most New Yorkers, at the sight of a thing with feathers, would run screaming to the other end of the carriage — but then, words are not things. Still it is curious to think of this New England recluse offered naked to public scrutiny by the masses.

Will anyone read the poems? It is too early to tell. If London's "Poems on the Underground" are any guide, people will be pleased to be reminded of a world different from that of their daily lives. But in its essence poetry remains private, a voice of dissent. Whitman is celebrated today, but was hounded in his own time for his homosexuality. It was Yeats, a master of tender nostalgia, who prophesied most accurately the horrors of our century:

Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold;
Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world,
The blood-dimmed tide is loosed, and everywhere
The ceremony of innocence is drowned.
We are not likely to see lines so despairing, and so true, either on the New York subway or the London tubes.

Judith Chernaik is co-founder of "Poems on the Underground"

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The Independent
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by SHARMAN MACDONALD
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If Radio 3's live Spanish extravaganza last Tuesday was ambitious, *España*, Friday's excursion into the Queen Elizabeth Hall, was truly, madly and deeply audacious. Here was a medieval melody, a romantic piano recital and a contemporary orchestral concert all in one.

Considering that both these evenings are celebrating the Columbus anniversary, we waited a long time for the first direct link. That came here from Philip Pickett and the New London Consort, who performed a selection from the *Cancionero de la Colombina*: the superbly varied late 15th century song collection found in the library of the great explorer's illegitimate son.

Pickett and his spirited team of instrumentalists and singers were surely correct to emphasise how, in these songs of love, politics and religion, the division between "art" and "street" music is nearly unde-

CONCERT
Free and spirited

fectable. Strait-laced sacred polyphony was threaded into sensuous harp or lute improvisations, and thence into languorous or satirical solos, sung with a freedom that would have graced any folk club. Perhaps the instrumental interludes had a few too many anachronistic hints of flamenco. But if one could question the historical veracity, one could not deny the most important achievement: the dusty parchments which lie like relics in the dark interior of Seville Cathedral had been brought gloriously to life, and that another window had been opened on the extraordinary patchwork that is Spanish history.

The other two parts of this

concert revealed more familiar vistas. Rafael Orozco played four pieces from Albeniz's magnificent collection of piano music, *Iberia*. Here is the musical essence of Spain — the tension that arises when the metre is free but the rhythm is precise — distilled with the virtuoso impressionist technique that Albeniz acquired in Paris, so that languid tunes seem to emerge in the middle of the keyboard while, at either extreme, notes

continue to be sprayed as if by dozens of guitars. Orozco, in scintillating form, perfectly maintained this illusion of playing with three hands.

Finally, the BBC Symphony Orchestra assembled in some quantity under Andrew Davis to give a rare (and well prepared) performance of Roberto Gerhard's Third Symphony, the one with the taped whooshes to help it towards the heart of darkness. It so earnestly seeks but never quite reaches. It does explore some wild and weird sonorities, but on the whole I prefer Gerhard when he is not wearing his apocalyptic cape.

RICHARD MORRISON

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IN ASSOCIATION WITH ISES

The Times invites theatre-lovers to take their places in a select circle, with two tickets for the price of one

Put some drama back in your life

Today, *The Times* in conjunction with the Society of West End Theatre and the Theatrical Management Association (representing regional theatres), is offering readers two theatre tickets for the price of one, at any one of more than 200 productions around the country.

Hayley and Juliet Mills in Noel Coward's *Fallen Angel* at Brighton's Theatre Royal and elsewhere. Maureen Lipman in Neil Simon's new play *Lost in Yonkers* on tour. Pauline Collins in Sharran Macdonald's new play

Shades at the West End's Albery Theatre... these are just some of the performances included in our list of more than 200 productions at 114 regional and West End theatres.

To book your seats simply choose a production from the selection listed below and telephone your chosen theatre, quoting "The Times two-for-one voucher offer". When you collect your ticket, hand in the voucher which you will find inserted in *Life & Times* today and you will be given an extra ticket free.



On tour: Bernard Cribbins in *Lady Be Good*

Why nothing beats a live performance

Theatre is a drug. Once let it into your system, and who can say where you will end up. But if you are lucky you will let it into your system a second time, and soon you will be hooked.

Who knows what really draws professional actors, singers and dancers out onto the boards night after night to act or sing or dance their hearts out. "It's a job," they say but that tells you nothing. The applause, the attention of a thousand eyes, may be part of the reason it is likely to be just the same as what draws us, the audience, to go and watch them acting and singing and dancing their hearts out.

Theatre, musicals, opera and ballet, they take us out of ourselves for a few precious hours. They liberate us from the daily matter-of-factness of our lives. We become other than we usually are, and this sometimes means we touch our real selves.

We only have to think of a bad performance in a rotten show to see the truth in this. Good performances carry us

away. Unless we are very young we do not exactly forget that we are sitting in a theatre surrounded by scores of other people all watching a few men and women pretending to be people they are not. Yet we do not exactly remember it either. The lines, the music, the lights, the movement, involve us in a story. We want to know the outcome. We want to watch the characters reveal themselves on the way to the outcome. In a mysterious way we somehow become one or other of the characters. It is our story they are telling. Bad performances do just the opposite. They never allow us to forget for a second that our seat is too high or too narrow, that the person in front will not stop fidgeting.

At the cinema we can see sharks gobbling up reckless bathers, houses burn to the ground, hikers transformed into werewolves. Television brings these thrills into arm's reach where nobody matters if we fidget or crumple the chocolate wrapper. But mechanical media cannot equal the thrill of the real thing — live theatre. In films

and television the "projection" is something a machine does in the theatre people do it. They are on stage, projecting themselves, their characters, to the 50 people in a fringe theatre above a pub, or to the 1,500 in the stalls and circles of a mighty Victorian playhouse encrusted with cherubs and naked nymphs holding up torches — caryatids, alas, not ushers.

Is it people have asked, because something could always go wrong? Actors forgetting their lines, falling off the stage? The final moments of *Tosca* rend the heart but I confess I should like, once, to see the fat lady throw herself off the battlements onto a badly placed mattress and bounce back up into view.

What is special to live performances is the realisation that the performers have come to the theatre just for us. Likewise, we have come just for them. For an hour or two we are sharing the same place, communicating our feelings without inhibition. Nothing beats that.

JEREMY KINGSTON

ENGLAND

Bagnor, nr Newbury: Watermill Theatre (0635 46044)
Oct 5-11, *The Crucifer of Blood*, a Sherlock Holmes mystery by Paul Gilman

Billingham: Forum Theatre (0642 552663)
Oct 5-11, *School for Scandal* by R.B. Sheridan. W/Oct 12, Syd Lawrence Orchestra (Thurs), Billy Pearce, Linda Lusard, Lauchler Show (Fri), Band of HM Royal Marines (Sat), W/Oct 19, *Poisoned Par's Special Delivery*. W/Oct 20, *Fallen Angels* by Noel Coward with Hayley and Juliet Mills

Birmingham: Birmingham Rep (021 236 4455)
Oct 5-11, *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck, adapted by Frank Colton

Bolton: Octagon Theatre (0204 20861)
Oct 5-11, *A Taste of Honey* by Shelagh Delaney with Sally Whitaker and Nick Conway

Bracknell: Wilde Theatre (0344 484128)
Oct 5-11, *A Cuckoo's Nest* by Alan Ayckbourn. W/Oct 12, *Talking Pictures* — *Go West* (Tues), *Clifford Henry* — *Cliff's Afternoon Unit* (Wed), *Union Dances Company* (Thurs), W/Oct 19, *The Rivals* by R.B. Sheridan

Bradford: Alhambra Theatre (0374 752000)
Oct 5-11, *Lost in Yonkers* by Neil Simon with Maureen Lipman. W/Oct 12, *West Side Story*. W/Oct 19, *Rambert Dance Company*. W/Oct 20, *Northern Ballet Theatre* — *Swan Lake*

Brighton: Gardner Arts Centre (0273 685861)
Oct 5-11, *Smashing Time* — *Punch and Judy* (Fri), W/Oct 12, *Curmudgeon* (Mon), *Ra Ra Ra* (Wed), *Royal National Theatre* — *Billy Liar* by Keith Waterhouse and Willis Hall (Thurs-Sat), W/Oct 19, *The Pussycat* — *Armed and Dangerous* (Mon, Tues), *The Electroacoustic Cabinet* (Wed, Thurs), *Julie Tait* (Thurs), *Lillian Bush Women* (Fri), *Jeremy Hardy* (Sat), W/Oct 26, *Theatre de Complicité* — *Awake* (Tues), *Quintana* (Wed), *Paul Zouk with Tricky n' Tracks* (Fri), *Shiksha* (Sat)

Brighton: Theatre Royal (0273 28488)
Oct 5-11, *West Side Story*. W/Oct 12, *London City Ballet* — *Swan Lake*. W/Oct 19, *Fallen Angels* by Noel Coward with Hayley and Juliet Mills. W/Oct 20, *Lady Be Good* by George and Ira Gershwin with Bernard Cribbins

Bristol: Bristol Old Vic (0272 50250)
Oct 5-11, *The Tempest* by William Shakespeare (Theatre Royal). *Women of the Dust* by Ruth Crawford (New Vic)

Bury St Edmunds: Theatre Royal (0234 769505)
Oct 5-11, *The Office Party* by John Gifford. W/Oct 12, *Noises Off* by Michael Frayn. W/Oct 19, *Lulu* by Frank Wedekind

Burton: Opera House (0298 72190)
Oct 5-11, *Nightmare* with Peter Byrne, Jean Rogers, David Ker-shaw, Truus Childs. W/Oct 19, *Mousetrap* (French), W/Oct 26, *Happily As a Standby* by Ken Lee

Cambridge: Arts Theatre (0223 552000)
Oct 5-11, *The Rivals* by R.B. Sheridan. W/Oct 12, *Lady Be Good* by George and Ira Gershwin with Bernard Cribbins. W/Oct 19, *Opera East* — *Madam Butterfly* (Tues), *The Marriage of Figaro* (Wed), *Sophia Davies Dance Company* (Fri), W/Oct 26, *A Pig in a Poke* by George Feydeau

Cardiff: Theatre Royal (0223 28488)
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Cardiff: Sherman Theatre (0222 230451)
Oct 5-11, *Blondel* (Mon-Tues), *Kemp's Jig* (Wed), W/Oct 12, *HMS Pinpoint* (amateur), *Blondel*. W/Oct 19, *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller (amateur), *Y Llyfr Adre* (amateur), *Y Llyfr Adre* by Noel Coward (amateur)

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Cheltenham: Everyman Theatre (0242 572573)
Oct 5-11, *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen. W/Oct 12, *Two by Jim Cartwright* (Studio), W/Oct 19, *Laurel and Hardy* by Tom McGrath (Studio), *Thunderbirds FAB* — *The Next Generation*. W/Oct 26, *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare (from Fri)

Chester: Gateway Theatre (0244 240392)
Oct 5-11, *Letting Go* by Peter Shaffer with Joanna Van Gyseghem and Stephanie Turner. W/Oct 20, amateur production

Chesterfield: Pomegranate Theatre (0246 229001)
Oct 5-11, *Crying for Words* by Sue Townsend. W/Oct 19, *Alexander Roy London Ballet Theatre* (Mon, Tues)

Covey: Belgrade Theatre (0203 553055)
Oct 5-11, *Run for Your Wife* by Ray Cooney. 12-31 Oct, *Shadows* by William Nicholson

Covey: Arts Centre, University of Warwick (0203 524524)
Oct 5-11, *Lady Be Good* by George and Ira Gershwin with Bernard Cribbins. W/Oct 12, *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare. W/Oct 19, *Trasle Theatre Company* — *State of Bewilderment* (Mon-Thurs), *Millennium Touring* — *The Secret Rapture* (Fri), *David Hare* (Studio, Thurs), W/Oct 26, *Royal National Theatre* — *Billy Liar* by Keith Waterhouse and Willis Hall (Mon-Wed), *Reveries of Not Dead* starring Miles and Milner with Jim Tavaré (Thurs)

Crawley: The Hawk (0293 553624)
Oct 5-11, *Death and the Maiden* by Ariel Dorfman. W/Oct 20, *An Evening with Gary Liner*

Croydon: Ashcroft Theatre (081-685 9291)
Oct 5-11, *The House of Stairs* by Ruth Rendell with Virginia Stride. W/Oct 12, *Run for Your Wife* by Ray Cooney with Tresor Bannister

Derby: Derby Playhouse (0332 36275)
Oct 5-11, *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller. W/Oct 19, amateur production

Exeter: Northcott Theatre (0392 54853)
Oct 5-11, *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Christopher Sergel, based on the novel by Harper Lee. W/Oct 12, *Dead Man's Hat* by Charles Wat. W/Oct 19, English National Ballet

Farnham: Redgrave Theatre (0243 50211)
Oct 5-11, *The Comedy of Errors* by William Shakespeare

Harlow: The Playhouse (0279 431945)
Oct 5-11, *Martin Taylor* (Wed), *Ken Dodd* (Thurs), W/Oct 12, *The Rivals* by R.B. Sheridan. W/Oct 19, *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare. W/Oct 26, *George Melly* (Tue, English National Ballet (Fri, Sat)

Harrogate: Harrogate Theatre (0143 50211)
Oct 5-11, *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare. W/Oct 26, *The Heritage* by Brendan Behan

Horsham: Queens Theatre (0708 443333)
Oct 5-11, *Guilford* by Patrick Hamilton with Brian Cant. W/Oct 26, *Last*, by the Heather Brothers with Brian Hibberd and Denis Lawson

Hull: New Theatre (0482 226655)
Oct 5-11, *D'Oyly Carte Opera* — *The Yeomen of the Guard* (Mon-Wed), *The Mikado* (Thurs, Thurs, Fri, Sat), W/Oct 12, *Revenge* by Robin Hawdon with Fiona Fullerton and Patrick Mower. W/Oct 19, *The Decorator* with Peter Davison, Gabrielle Drake and Erica Hoffman. W/Oct 26, *A Christmas Carol*. W/Oct 26, *Opera North* — *Orpheus in the Underworld* (Tues), *The Marriage of Figaro* (Wed), *Rigoletto* (Thurs)

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Long is the way when winter sets in

For sheer cosiness, elegance and usefulness, the long coat is sweeping its way back, predicts Brenda Polan

Hardy Amies's famous remark that people no longer wear hats, they have cars instead, was recently topped by the editor of the *Sunday Express*, Eve Pollard, when, on leaving a grand and bare-shouldered event, she was asked if she had a coat. "No," she replied, beady eyeing the yawning, coin-clutching queue for the cloakroom. "I have a driver." Those who had mistakenly assumed that a limousine purring expectantly at the kerbside had more to do with status than anything else hastily revised their opinions.

In just the same way that British Rail is inadequately prepared for snow, British hotels, restaurants, museums, galleries, theatres and offices are not quite up to the demands of serious outerwear. In countries which take winter seriously such as Russia, Switzerland and Scandinavia, there are large, well-organised and well-guarded, free cloakrooms. In Britain the safest, quickest and cheapest option is usually to sit on your damp coat. Women old enough to have been fashion-conscious in the 1970s have rueful memories of shrunken-off maxi-coats collapsing bulky to dusty floors, there to be crushed underfoot by waiters, children and muddy-pawed pets seeking something soft to cosy up to.

Yet the long, long coat looks so dramatic when its wearer is standing up or striding through a wintry landscape that it is impossible to believe that its return this winter will be much resisted. It is a glamorous garment for several reasons: in a half-way decent fabric it looks expensive, elegant and grown-up; it covers up all the bitty, indecisive morning compromises in terms of sweaters and skirts or trousers; it conjures up romantic images from the underheated past when layers of clothing were the best defence against bitter cold.

Originally, the overcoat was an exclusively male garment, developed in the 18th century to keep the coachman from shivering to death up on his box. It was known as the box coat and public coaches carried spares to offer to passengers riding outside. The armies of Europe, weary of campaigning with just a draught cloak to wrap around their gaudy uniforms, were quick to appropriate it, as were travelling and sporting gentlemen in Britain and on the continent. Women did not start to feel the benefit of a snug buttoned-up overcoat until the end of the century and it only really became established as part of the

THE WAY WE WERE 30 YEARS AGO — AND STILL ARE



Snappy: Jackie Kennedy's short, sharp boxy coats (above) set a style for the 1960s, which lasted until it was swept away by the all-enveloping romance of *Doctor Zhivago* and the fur-loving hippies. Fashion notwithstanding, the Sixties look has endured in some — notably Royal — quarters ever since (left)

fashionable female wardrobe in the 1840s when, retaining the caped shoulders of the coachman's coat, it was fitted to the hourglass shape of the crinoline.

Thereafter, the female overcoat was entirely the victim of fashion's whim, adhering closely to the currently desirable silhouette. It was engineered to encompass the bustle, to cling narrowly over the flapper's bustless, hipless frame and, padded and gored, to swerve dramatically over the contours of the New Look. The 1960s coat was merely the high bust-darted miniskirt in a heavier fabric. It looked best on Jackie Kennedy, and the Queen still refuses to relinquish it.

The current coat revival favours three distinct, traditional styles: the military greatcoat, the fur or velvet-trimmed redingote and the spacious raglan which owes its full, easy line to the eponymous Commander of Britain's forces in the Crimea and his insistence on comfort and manoeuvrability. Irresistibly, the high-waisted military-type greatcoats, which also come in glossy leather this autumn, summon up Garbo as Queen Christina and Julie Christie in *Doctor Zhivago*, the film which triggered the last major coat revival. In those days the coat was often worn over a

miniskirt and high, highly polished boots. The new version is intended to be worn over the new long skirt and the skinny sweater or fitting jacket which goes with it. The boots are *fin de siècle* ankle-hugging jobs with a small sturdy heel.

The softer redingote, less strict with fewer tabs and brass buttons, is semi-fitted, a matter of clever darts rather than serious seams, with a flaring skirt and, often, velvet or fur trim. Real fur is creeping back on collars and cuffs, a remarkable renaissance for a material whose obituary, in Britain at least, was written in the 1980s. But most of the trim on this season's coats is fake fur, leopard-spotted for preference. The best-value version, the one for which most of London's fashion editors have their names down, is the Whistles redingote (£285 from Whistles, St Christopher's Place, London W1 and branches).

The raglan varies in capaciousness but the greater the yardage the greater the sense of luxury. Some of the best of these come from traditional coat-makers such as Aquascutum but Nicole Fathi's huge fur-trimmed coat is perhaps the most spectacular. The big loose coats sit well over trousers as well as

skirts and efficiently double as an extra counterpane in other people's icy country houses.

The cosiness factor should not be overlooked. There's a sort of psychological comfort to be derived from hugging yards of soft wool or cashmere around oneself which no down-filled parka and thermal leggings can supply. But when it comes to agility, to putting it on and forgetting it, to bundling it up and stuffing it under the cinema seat, the mid-thigh length parkas that were introduced last winter are unbeatable. The shops are full of repeats this winter.

The coat which the seriously fashionable will be mothballing this winter is the swingbacked short coat, popular for the past couple of years, which was designed to partner leggings, ski-pants or a very short skirt. Its proportions are entirely wrong for the long skirt, although the thrifty among us are convinced it still looks fine over any kind of trouser. Those who invested in a brightly coloured swirly number will find that it and the new masculine-cut dark trouser suit make an eye-catching and, with good ankle-boots, warm combination. Warmth, for those of us who have to leg it back to the parking meter, can sometimes seem more important than glamour.



Traditional class: the Whistles redingote, one of three distinct styles back in fashion this year

Matthew Parris wonders what conclusions to draw from the way party conference delegates dress

Where the only thing hot is the air

To find some key trend-setting fashion pointers for the autumn, take a round ticket to the three party conferences. Whatever delegates are wearing is — you may rely on it — out.

How do I know that T-shirts with printed slogans were strictly for the 1980s? Because Liberal Democrats were going crazy for them in Harrogate

three weeks ago. Where can we be sure that those with chic little *feminazi* blazers in scarlet, with power-padded shoulders, are passé? Because Labour women were still wearing them in Blackpool last week. When do we pronounce the double-breasted suit and Manhattan haircut definitive dead? When we see it on Young Conservatives in Brighton this week.

Yet, if a glance at what people are wearing at Harrogate, Blackpool and Brighton this year tells us what to avoid, it also tells us something about the ideological tides and social undercurrents within the parties themselves.

Take the Liberal Democrats. A year ago, suits, silk ties and mobile telephones made a tentative appearance even among Liberals, the last of the three parties to succumb. In 1991, everybody noticed the disappearance of the stereotypical Liberal of the cliché: shorts-and-sandals, trainers-and-Parkas, beards, woolly hats, embroidered smocks. Third party politics of the nutty kind, we concluded, must be disappearing too. Paddy Ashdown was hooked on Antocue, Simon Hughes had bitten his yellow Lycra cycling shorts, and Liberal Democrats were ready for government. Bye bye, yoghurt eaters, we cried.

Too soon. I have disturbing news from Harrogate, 1992. Beards are back. Five, five



Gordon Brown (right) and tasteful-abstract ties in Blackpool

pairs of sandals were spotted, all of them worn with socks. And on three successive days there were sightings of shorts in the Yorkshire drizzle. One big election disappointment, we conclude, and liberalism is reaching back for the comforts of its childhood. The nursery favourites: teddy bears and animal rights; homespun policies and home-knitted jerseys. Some of this was a reversion to type. But the loony element has been reinforced by new blood from the Green party,

which effectively died at its conference this year. Did you see the green folk at Wolverhampton? Scattered, now, to the four winds, some of the smocks have blown in among the Lib-Dem suits. The Green diaspora begins.

The signals from Blackpool last week were even more confusing. If a glance at the political pages of this newspaper suggests a government in shambles, and an Opposition storming confidently towards an open goal, style-

watching at the Labour conference tells a different story. Style-watching reveals a party with an identity crisis.

The suits were there, certainly: dark suits, oversized *à la* Paul Boateng, and ties of a type best described as muted-floral or tasteful-abstract. But although last year the "yuppie" seemed to carry all before it, this year other, rival, self-images were muscling their way back into the Winter Gardens. Among the more style-conscious young men, a sprinkling of button-up silk shirts (no tie) was visible. But they rubbed shoulders with Doc Martens, black denim jeans, and white T-shirts — the "London Labour" look. There were even a few little caps. Simply Red style.

Carefully ill-fitting jackets from the charity shops abounded in the hotel lobby bars, and also popular are NHS glasses (the kind you can't actually get on the NHS any more — Gucci do them). The trade unionists look like the same ones who have gathered in Brighton or Blackpool any year you care to mention. Your trade unionist, like your starling, is unvarying. Even as the old ones die, new ones are being born and measured for the off-the-peg suits, off-white shirts, with off-popping buttons, and off-maroon nylon ties, plus union crests.

And how about the Labour women? The power-dressed, brass-buttoned, over-cut jacket survives, and every tenth female delegate is a cinema usherette. In years gone by, the subliminal message behind such outfits was "Dare to fancy me". But this year, foliated women rubbed padded shoulders with an army of the Earrings. These women have short hair, and such enormous earrings that in later years they will look like Hutu tribeswomen, with grotesquely distended lobes. This is a look which says: "Fancy me, and I'll kick you where it hurts."

Contrast this with your rising Tory woman. Virginia Bottomley's tasteful winstons with just that hint of coquetry which she is saying: "Fancy me and, now I've got your attention, here are my views on GP fund-holding."

We can guess the prevailing styles among the Tory platform party at Brighton this week. But I have a theory which the week ahead in

Brighton should enable me to test. I have detected a *prima facie* correlation between the holding of sceptical views on the Maastricht moves towards monetary union, and the wearing of boldly coloured socks. Red socks, in particular, often accompany a hostile attitude to Brussels.

Europhiles tend to wear grey or pastel coloured socks — Ted Heath, for instance, has a predilection for very pale blue ones. Nicholas Soames's are pale yellow. It can be no coincidence that these two colours make up the European flag of yellow stars on a blue background. Can you imagine Douglas Hurd in scarlet socks? Of course not.

Disturbing news from Harrogate, 1992. Beards are back. Five, five pairs of sandals were spotted, all worn with socks

ASTROLOGY AND THE HEAVENLY CONSTELLATIONS

EHRMAN TAPESTRY



Jamie and Jessi Seaton, the well-known knitwear designers, felt inspired by a Dürer engraving of medieval star maps to turn their hand to needlework. The result is a stunning tapestry kil cushion in smouldering colours set on a deep charcoal background. In the bottom corner sits Azophi Arabis, one of the greatest of the early astronomers, with the globe in his hands. Above are ranged familiar symbols from the Zodiac and the astral configurations. Burnt sienna and fox red, cinnamon, mahogany and chestnut browns, taupe, gold and cadmium yellow are mixed with amethyst, azure blue, spruce, cherry and frosted white, and glow against the midnight sky. The geometric, outer border is stitched in shades of gold and deep rose pink.

Measuring 16" x 16" the design is printed in full colour on 12 holes to the inch canvas. 100% pure wool from the Appleton range is used and the design can be worked in either half-cross or tent stitch. The kit costs £38.50 including postage and packing, and comes complete with wool, canvas, needle and instructions. When ordering use FREEPOST — no stamp needed.

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Jackson's Romanian appeal

The people of Bucharest had seen nothing like it as rock's fey superstar descended.

Nicholas Watt reports on a city in shock

When Michael Jackson's promoter suggested a charity concert in Romania, Jackson is said to have asked: "Where's Romania?" After a quick tutorial encompassing Transylvania and Dracula, MJ, as his PR team insist on calling him, jumped at the idea. *Thriller*, his hit single in which dancing skeletons take to the stage, would be ideal.

Jackson's Romanian fans don't really care what persuaded him to include Bucharest in his European "Dangerous" tour, but the country's opposition Democratic Convention responded in kind with a declaration saying they had never heard of Michael Jackson and didn't care about him. *Evenimentul Zilei*, the country's largest selling newspaper, was besieged with calls saying that people should not vote for the opposition.



On song: Jackson

Bucharest's faded elegance hardly matches the Michael Jackson image but the luxurious Snagov palace, one of Nicolae and Elena Ceausescu's favourite haunts, does. Before Jackson arrived, the palace was briefly notorious when the pair escaped there by helicopter as they were hounded out of Bucharest days before being executed. Last week Jackson stayed for four days in Snagov, which is surrounded by huge meadows and a lake which has a church in the middle. Road blocks for miles around kept curious fans at bay and absolute peace was guaranteed: when Ceausescu stayed there he was once so irritated by the noise of chickens and dogs that he ordered they be banished from the area.

Mihai Radu, a Romanian journalist, said: "Michael Jackson will have been very comfortable. There is a swimming pool and every luxury you can possibly imagine. It is very picturesque. It's a paradise." Jackson's entourage of 350 — including his crew, beauticians and burly bodyguards — had 16 cooks who prepared food down out specially from western Europe. Lavatories and security guards were flown in. But some of his crew appeared distinctly unimpressed by Bucharest. Greg Philinganes, the band's keyboard player, moaned as he arrived at the airport, which looks like a permanent building site. He refused to pay for a visa and grumbled with other members of the band as he waited nearly an hour for his bag-

gage to appear on the airport's one creaky conveyor belt.

But Jennifer Batten, the spiky-haired lead guitarist, was delighted with Romania. "Hey man, it's wild out here. It's like coming to Mars. I've never been to Eastern Europe before and it beats working at Burger King." At a party for the crew in a restaurant outside Bucharest she wandered round with a video recorder filming traditional Romanian dancing.

The 65,000 who turned up for the concert could not fail to be impressed by Jackson. Bucharest had never seen a show like it before.

Marcel Avram, Jackson's Romanian-born promoter, said: "The logistics of staging the concert were very difficult because Bucharest has never had a concert like this before. We transported the band's equipment in two 130-ton Antonov planes. The set for the stage was driven out in 23 trucks with ten fork-lift trucks. Everything came from abroad except the manpower that built the stage."

Romanian electricity is so unreliable that Mr Avram brought three generators. "I love Romania but the electricity is not so good," he said. "Two of the generators were for the show and the other was for the catering."

In a country starved of outside culture for so long under Ceausescu's dictatorship, the concert was their first real taste of western pop music. Romanians were so touched that Jackson should have chosen their country for the east European leg of his "Dangerous" tour that political leaders clapped their way through the concert.

Romanian youngsters have so taken to Jackson that *Evenimentul Zilei* founded a fan club and has devoted a page a day to him for three months. Six hundred members of the club were given free tickets for the concert. Amalia Diaconu, a 15-year-old fan, declared: "If Michael's car ran me over I would die happy."

Romania's prime minister, Theodor Stolojan, an honorary member of the fan club, said: "This has only been possible in free Romania. Having Michael Jackson in Bucharest shows that people can now express their feelings. It is like a volcano for us. People normally see the sensational side of Romania but this will show how civilised our



Star struck: Romanian orphans meet Michael Jackson at the opening of a showpiece playground

country is... May the force be with you Michael Jackson."

The concert fell in the middle of the two-stage presidential election and every side of the political spectrum latched on to Jackson. President Iliescu, who came first in the initial ballot but who faces another round, embraced the concert. So did his opponent, Emil Constantinescu. But other members of the opposition thought the concert a frivolity Romanians could ill afford.

Some of the footballers who use Bucharest's national soccer stadium, where Jackson played, were not amused by the concert. The Dynamo club was meant to have played in a European Cup match on the day of the concert last Thursday but was promptly told to play elsewhere because the government, which owns the stadium, wanted to host Jackson.

No star can go to Romania without visiting orphans, but Jackson went one stage further. In Bucharest he launched his new charity, Heal the World, which aims to fight pollution and child abuse. Jackson also opened a playground at an orphanage built with money from the charity.

Old Bucharest hands could not help noting that the Leagăna Pentru Copii Sfânta Ecaterina orphanage is a showpiece. Built on the road to the airport it has received a considerable chunk of the foreign money pouring into Romania. One Romanian in-

volved in the Jackson tour, who wanted to remain anonymous, said: "In the old days the government showed the best. After the revolution they showed the worst and now they are back to showing the best."

Jackson, dressed in a black rimmed hat and a red striped sailor suit, kissed and cuddled babies and sang along with older children who had specially learnt his lyrics. Outside, the president waited 25 minutes for the star to appear. As Jackson's towering bodyguards, wearing sunglasses, jostled around him he was mobbed by children and cheered by fans penned in outside the orphanage and others peering down from trees and roof tops. Sheepishly holding his hand over his face, Jackson nodded awkwardly as he battled his way round the playground.

Romanian police and troops used truncheons to beat the hands of those who tried to peer over the perimeter fence. The children, who were keeping up a chorus of "Michael, Michael," were even more frustrated when the police covered the fence with black plastic bags to block their view.

Jackson's security men were equally muddled. When a party of journalists, who had been invited to cover the opening of the playground, arrived at the orphanage they were unceremoniously shepherded away by security

guards. Ray Arco, one of the most senior Romanians organising the concert, dressed in a multi-coloured Michael Jackson jacket, came up to explain the problem. "I know you have tickets," he said. "But the blue line drawn across the back is not thick enough."

After opening the playground Jackson took over Bucharest's newly restored Casino Theatre to spell out his reasons for launching *Heal the World*: "We have to heal our planet and we have to heal ourselves. We did not weave the web of life, we are part of this web... The life of blood of ages is dancing in our blood at this moment. The environment is our extended body and the pulse of love that orchestrates the symphony of the universe is playing out its music in the deepest recesses of our souls."

After the speeches and the tours it was time for the concert. Jackson's appearance on stage was delayed until the last possible moment when the crowd had been warmed up and were left wondering if he had gone down with another of his viral infections. Beatles songs were played as the crowd cheered and waved. Then the star appeared in a shower of sparks which briefly sent the prime minister's bodyguards rushing in his direction.

The delighted fans danced and cheered — Romania had finally had a taste of the Jackson phenomenon.

Heroines are still fighting

As Kuwait goes to the polls, its women go to the barricades

Most of the 400 Islamic suffragettes attending the first election rally in Kuwait to be addressed by women, were undeterred as an explosion rent the night air, sending many white-robed men ducking for cover.

Even if some of us die, we will fight to get the vote," shouted a young teacher in a black *abbaya* (gown) who grabbed a microphone. "Whatever happens, I am going to try to vote on October 5."

The women, many of them dressed in chic western fashions, had already ignored a barrier separating them from male voters, some of whom looked on in horror. Steeled by their crucial role in the seven-month resistance against Iraq, Kuwait women have been fighting a spirited campaign against the refusal of the ruling Al-Sabah family to allow them to participate in today's poll, the first since parliament was dissolved in 1986.

They have already secured the backing of Lawrence Eagleburger, the acting American secretary of state, who has voiced Washington's exasperation at the allied liberation of Kuwait by a coalition in which women played an important role in helping secure the emirate's women the vote.

Fundamentalists have vowed violent opposition to the women, who, if they succeed in pushing their demand for the franchise through the new 50-seat parliament, would be alone among their sisters in the Gulf Arab states. They argue that even in revolutionary Iran women have the right to vote and to be elected.

As well as angering the Americans and the British, the emir's decision to snub Kuwait women lacks popular support. An opinion poll in Kuwait's *Arab Times* found that 57 per cent of Kuwaiti men favoured women being granted the vote and a 85 per cent of women wanted it. Many male voters admit shame over the ban after the bravery shown by women during the occupation. Thousands of women were tortured and raped but they still snatched weapons and codes and ran secret hospitals in cellars.

The campaign for women's votes began last spring when registration for today's vote opened. The emir, under strong pressure to resist the campaign from neighbouring Saudi Arabia, where women

may not even drive, has tried to avoid making concessions. But he has been forced to admit that the issue may come before the new parliament and if a majority should vote in favour, Western diplomats believe he will have to give in.

The women are headed by a formidable Arab Emmeline Pankhurst, Mrs Alsat Al-Sultan, mother of five children, grandmother, prominent clinical psychiatrist and member of one of the emirate's leading families. Like other women present she did not flinch at the blast — apparently from a home-made device.

"What is humiliating is that I am treated as a second class citizen," she said. "After what women went through in the war and occupation many are no longer willing to tolerate such a scandal."

Although the campaign has distant echoes of the one that eventually won British women the vote, it is more discreet. The well-heeled women of Kuwait have mounted protests outside electoral offices in fleets of Mercedes and BMWs.

One was led by Lulwa Al-Mullah, the acting philosophy and successful estate agent. "At the last election, [in 1985] we had to sit outside the election tents and listen to the speeches on our FM radios. This time we are insisting that we are going to play a part," she said.

Kuwait women, long noted for their business and administrative acumen, are not totally oppressed although they find it difficult to secure accommodation if they are single or married to foreigners. They are permitted to drive, to own businesses and to hold lesser ranks in government ministries. They can choose whether or not to wear the Islamic veil. They also have equal education opportunities and their exam results consistently show them more able than Kuwaiti men, who are widely regarded in the Arab world as both lazy and pampered.

"Many of our men are cowards who ran away during the invasion and even our government sat it out in the luxury of a Saudi hotel while we were here doing our best to fight for Kuwait," said another woman, who asked not to be identified.

Seeing me taking notes a nearby woman attending the historic rally remarked acidly: "Did you Westerners liberate all of Kuwait, or just its menfolk?"

CHRISTOPHER WALKER

In or out?



Every school now has to face up to the decision of whether to opt out.

A special 24 page colour pull-out in this week's TES examines the pros and cons of grant maintained status.

TES

THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT
80p Every Friday

Bobby Seale might have come to Britain to galvanise our black youth — but he is still trapped in his own history

The panther turns grey

They certainly had a way with titles. *Seize the Time, Soul on Ice, Soledad Brother*. Bobby Seale, Eldridge Cleaver, George Jackson, leaders of America's black consciousness movement in the 1960s packed a literary as well as an actual punch. Their tales of trial and endurance are classics of their time and their authors have become icons.

Bobby Seale is one of the movement's few prominent survivors, and is keenly aware of his legendary status. "I'm more or less a history continuum," he told an audience in London last week.

Seize the Time, Mr Seale's account of the Black Panther movement, has just been re-issued after a gap of 22 years, and its author is in London to help British Panthers galvanise black youth in this country into a radical movement. The British version of the movement (now moribund in America) was established this year "to fight racism and advance the black struggle", styling itself as a democratic body concerned with sexual equality and "raising the consciousness of black people as to their history and struggle".

Mr Seale remains an inspirational figure. He has aged, of course, and, at 55, is now an almost portly figure, with greying hair and glasses. But the fire that was lit in 1962, when he first heard the late Malcolm X urge racial insurrection, still burns fiercely.

He stood trial at different times both for incitement to murder and organise riots,

eventually dropped. Today he talks of "too much dope and criminality" among black youths and voices appreciation that Britain has not succumbed to the cult of the gun.

When he is asked by young blacks about the lessons of his struggle for modern Britain, he soars back on verbal wings to 1962, when he awoke to the revolution, or 1966, when he helped form the Panthers, or 1969, when he was in jail — even 1973, as his black *Cameo* was fading, when he stood for mayor of Oakland. The man who once defied white America and took on the malignant might of J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI remains a consummate showman, who appreciates more than most the importance of myth in moving a people off its knees.

Modern America, seen from a black perspective, could certainly do with a little myth-making. Mr Seale looks back to Martin Luther King, Huey P. Newton, Malcolm X, George Jackson, Stokely Carmichael, Eldridge Cleaver. Who can he look to now? David Dinkins, the mayor of New York, who was once chased away from a riot after sending in the police and later staged a return wearing a Malcolm X baseball cap; Louis Farrakhan, of the Nation of Islam, who refers to New York as "Hymie Town"; Jesse Jackson, who had a dream all right, but mainly that he should become president.

Mr Seale said there were now 200 black mayors in America and 10,000 other black elected politicians or



Consummate showman: Bobby Seale in London — "I'm more or less a history continuum," he told his audience

them ain't worth shit". He knew only too well of the horrors of the recent race riots in Los Angeles, with their grim intimation that nothing much has changed. He was also aware of the growth of inter-racial feuding between blacks and other minorities. Indians, Pakistanis, Sikhs, Vietnamese, Koreans and hispanics were now crowding into "black" areas, he said, and, in many cases, taking over black businesses.

"But I am against blacks who kill young Asians. When they do that, they are stooping to the same level as the Ku Klux Klan or skinheads [a rare European reference], and I say to them, 'if you stoop to that level don't call me'."

Mr Seale was never a segregationist and he was always willing to form coalitions with other "progressive" or gan-

Yippies. But the essence of the Black Panthers was their unilateral declaration of independence — a declaration taken, ironically, from America's founding fathers. In the 1990s, Mr Seale, struggling to comprehend the black establishment's embrace of "white" values, has become, perhaps, almost a moderate.

Mr Seale urges people of every colour, to be ready to defend themselves against state violence and racial prejudice. "If you stand your ground, at the end of the day you're cool." Yet he does not advocate violence. Even in the 1960s, when he was often a walking arsenal, he was making a point, he says, not trying to kill policemen. In 1990s Britain, it is organisation and agitation that he says will win

"I don't ask young Panthers to take up guns," he says. "We already fought that fight. What we advocate is power to all the people. Racism is stupid. It is contingent upon a lot of dumb myth. To believe in racism is to believe that the universe has stopped."

Oddly, this is Mr Seale's first visit to Britain and he does not pretend to understand fully the particular nuances of UK race relations. All he can do is tell his story — as he does 30 or 40 times a year in America — and try to relate his celebrated experience to the lives of contemporary blacks throughout the world. To this end, he has even updated his vocabulary. In the new introduction to *Seize the Time*, he refers to establishing "civil and human rights for all, including the right to an ecologically balanced, pollution-free

So Bobby Seale is worried about the ozone layer. It is a sign of the times and a last curtain call, perhaps, for an old trouper, struggling to keep his performance fresh. What must be clear to all is that Mr Seale was seized and held by his own time long ago, when he was shackled in that Chicago courtroom and stood there three days a self-appointed symbol of oppression.

WALTER ELLIS

CORRECTION

The photograph accompanying the article "A sad end to terms of trial" (September 25) was of Michael Richardson, director of continuing education at Madingley Hall, Cambridge, and not, as stated, of Nigel Richardson, formerly of

Too clever by half

British pride in the rigour of university selection might be misplaced, Peter Scott believes.

Never mind the width, feel the quality — the clichéd sales patter could well once have been a motto for Britain's universities and colleges. They admitted fewer students than across the Channel and far fewer than across the Atlantic but the "survival rate", to adopt policy-speak, of those they did admit was much higher. Recent figures from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris show this is still true, up to a point. In Italy fewer than a third complete their degrees. Here more than nine out of ten are successful.

This characteristic of British higher education was always seen as its special strength. Money was not wasted on students who dropped out. Although our universities and colleges admitted barely more than half the number enrolled in France or Germany, Britain produced almost as many graduates. Our universities retained a scholarly atmosphere long since abandoned in the rest of Europe and the United States and provided a high-quality student experience.

Today many people recognise that this contrast between British and foreign patterns was always overdrawn, that a tough-selection, low-wastage policy could not be sustained on the edge of the 21st century and that it was probably a weakness anyway.

The OECD's comparison of survival rates shows Britain's 94 per cent is no longer exceptional. The Swedes manage an implausible 109 per cent — a quirk of statistical categories rather than another example of Swedish efficiency. But the Dutch, with 87 per cent, are not far behind us. Even in Germany, so often seen as the archetypal land of the wandering (and ageing) student, four out of five manage to graduate. The true division is not between Britain and everyone else but between northern and southern Europe.

Nor is low wastage necessarily evidence that academic standards are high. The president of one of Paris's many



Looking ahead: entrenched views on standards will have to change with the expansion of higher education

universities told me recently that he assured academic quality by ensuring that a large number of students "fail" at the end of their first year. British universities, in contrast, cannot shed marginal students in this brusque way.

Even British higher education's elitism, love it or hate it, is much exaggerated. Every country has its pocket of highly selective institutions — the "ivy league" in America, the grandes écoles in France (incidentally, outside the university system entirely). Admittedly they do not appear to dominate the rest of higher education as Oxbridge does here, but this domination is more psychological than actual. Throw in our more than 500 further education colleges to balance America's community colleges, which are firmly counted as higher education, and our alleged elitism is radically reduced.

Finally, almost everything that has happened in British higher education over the past 30 years — the establishment of the new universities, the enlargement of the older ones, the promotion of the colleges of advanced technology, the creation of the polytechnics — has lowered barriers to entry. And not unintentionally. Shortly before he died, I interviewed Lord Robbins, the architect of the famous 1963 report for ever

associated with university expansion.

I asked him why he, an old-fashioned rather than new-fangled liberal, had been so convinced expansion was necessary despite its disruptive potential, social and academic. He replied by recalling a remark of R H Tawney, who has spent the war years in Washington: "You should never underestimate how America has benefited because so many of its people have had at least the smell of a higher education." Many people agreed with Lord Robbins, even as they agonised about the dangers of offering students second-best — "more means worse", the war-cry of conservative opponents of expansion, turned upside down.

Britain's present lurch, therefore, towards mass higher education, to almost-open access, is not a sudden event. It is the culmination of a long revolution — but one with radical consequences. An inevitable consequence is that, if entry standards are lowered, wastage rates will rise — unless exit standards are lowered, too, which ministers half-publicly suspect is already happening. Yet, among the many performance indicators by which universities will be judged are wastage rates. If rates rise, universities will be

punished. The intention, of course, is to keep standards up; it will probably have the opposite effect.

Once universities could boast of low wastage rates because they could afford to take very few risks when admitting students — if in doubt, leave them out. In truth, of course, British wastage was always high. It happened not during higher education but at the point of entry, denying too many school-leavers even that Robbins-Tawney "smell of a higher education". This premature denial of opportunity goes a long way to explain Britain's shockingly low rate of staying on beyond the compulsory school-leaving age. Disincentives dangerously outweigh incentives for many teenagers.

If higher education is to be opened up for good, two things have to happen. First, we must learn to live with higher wastage. After all, it is evidence of a determination to maintain academic standards, which should please conservatives, and of a desire to offer more students at least the chance to succeed, which should please liberals.

Second, we have to redefine failure. The British too often define success in terms of exclusion. We like clubs because not everyone can join and long for O levels because most pupils never took them.

To provide the necessary psychological reassurance, exclusion has to be uncompromising — no (or very few) second chances. So when students drop out at the beginning of their last year, their lost degrees are remembered and their two years in higher education forgotten.

Why should students not drop in and out of universities, benefiting from credit transfer and accumulation arrangements if they want, or pick-and-mix their own higher education? Either way they might turn out to be more engaged, more active learners, than well-drilled cohorts of straight-through students. The latter, of course, will continue to dominate higher education numerically, more than ever perhaps, but more room must be found for the former. The only way is to take more risks, which means not being so frightened of failure.

The author is professor of education at Leeds University and former editor of *The Times Higher Education Supplement*.

Noble exploits of the round square

Twenty-five years ago, Gordonstoun inspired the name for a living memorial to the ideals of Kurt Hahn

Against the stunning red and gold backdrop of a Canadian autumn, a former king, an English peer and two German princes met with heads of schools from all over the world at the weekend to discuss the future of what must be one of the most extraordinary associations of schools.

The members would not be entirely surprised if few people had heard of them, and certainly their title takes some explaining. The Round Square Conference, now celebrating its 25th anniversary, was formed at Gordonstoun school a year after the 80th birthday of Kurt Hahn, founder of Salem and Gordonstoun Outward Bound and the United World Colleges.

The idea for a loose association of schools that embraced the Hahn ideal of educating the whole child in body as well as mind, and to accept the need to serve others, came from the then King Constantine of Greece, who slipped out of his country without telling his minister to attend the 1966 birthday meeting at Schloss Salem, Dr Hahn's first school in Germany. "The idea was greeted in silence, so I thought maybe it was not such a good idea after all," says the king, who was overthrown in a military coup in 1967, "but the others said they wanted time to think about it. Dr Hahn said that we could go ahead but that it should not be called the Hahn Association."

The group met again the following year at Gordonstoun — without King Constantine. "I had some problems at home," he says. The meeting was chaired by Jocelyn Winthrop Young, one of the two original pupils who came to Gordonstoun with Dr Hahn from Salem in 1933, the year before the then Prince Philip joined the school.

Looking out of the window at Gordonstoun, Mr Win-

throp Young, who had been King Constantine's headmaster at Anavyssa School in Athens, suggested the group call itself the Round Square Conference after the school's splendid if eccentric building, which encircles a lawn.

The five underlying principles of Round Square are outdoor adventure, service, education for democracy, international understanding and environmental conservation. The RSC now has 27 member schools in nine countries on five continents. It arranges school exchanges and aid projects worldwide. More than 200 delegates

number of students each year for periods from a month to a term. The RSC also undertakes some ambitious foreign aid programmes. Girls from Cobham Hall School, in Kent, helped to rebuild a water system for classrooms and community centres in India after an appeal from two RSC schools there.

Most of the money — about £1,500 for each project — is raised by a fund organised by Prince Alexander of Schleswig-Holstein, a governor of Lüneburg, his old school in northern Germany. The prince encourages students to return to their schools to raise money for the projects.

A rule of the fund is that the money can only be used for the building materials required. Fares are raised by sponsors, the school and the students themselves, and accommodation is provided by the host school. As it embarks on the next 25 years with schools in Denmark, Russia and South Africa waiting to join, the RSC has decided to make its existence known and aims to raise more funds so that it can expand. The members are anxious not to lose what they see as the special quality

of the annual conference, however. "We do not want to meet in conference centres or hotels but in schools during term time, not in the holidays when they are bare and echoing," says Ann West, the deputy head of Cobham Hall, in Kent, and deputy director of the RSC.

Another of the requirements of RSC membership is that schools involve their students in the running of schools. After last year's conference in Delhi, it was agreed that students would also play a major part in the organisation of conferences. More than half the delegates in Canada at the weekend were students.

DAVID TYTLER



Home: the main block at Gordonstoun

students, teachers, heads and governors attended this year's conference at Bishop's College School in Lennoxville, Quebec, representing schools in Australia, Canada, England, Germany, India, Kenya, Scotland, Switzerland and the US. Constantine is the active chairman, and has no doubts about the value of the RSC. "One can hardly wake up in the morning without seeing major changes have taken place in the world. By going to other countries our students can help to eliminate misunderstandings about how other people live, which will help them to avoid some of the mistakes previous generations have made."

Member schools exchange a

Meet the head

Education fair helps parents choose

BRITAIN's largest exhibition of independent schools will take place next weekend in London. Independent Education '92, organised by *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* in association with the Independent Schools Information Service, will enable parents to meet headteachers and benefit from advice offered in a programme of free seminars.

With more independent schools introducing vocationally based courses, parents will be able to see the whole range of opportunities. For example, Trinity School is introducing the BTEC national diploma course in business and finance and information technology into its 1993 curriculum. Colin Ashby, the headmaster, believes this is a step that other independent schools will follow.

Other issues to be discussed include boarding, single-sex or co-educational, planning for school fees, special needs schools and independent schools in London.

More than 250 independent schools will be represented at the fair, which is to be held at the Business Design Centre, in Islington, north London. The opening times are: Friday, 3pm-7pm; Saturday, 10am-6pm; Sunday, 10am-4pm.

The nearest tube station is The Angel. The cost of admission is £5. A full information pack, including a timetable of seminars, an exhibitor list and details of how to get to the Business Design Centre, is available through an informa-

Public school celebrates the centenary of a great tradition

The man who made men out of Oundle

He was described by H.G. Wells as "beyond question the greatest man I have ever known". He is now acknowledged as one of the three great headmasters, with Arnold of Rugby and Thring of Uppingham, who shaped the English public school system.

Frederick William Sanderson took up his headship of Oundle School in September 1892, and to celebrate the centenary the school has designated Saturday "Sanderson Day". Many Old Oundelians, particularly those who re-member the school in the Sanderson era (1892-1922), have been invited back for a full programme of events.

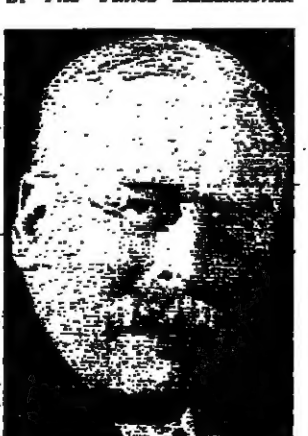
H.G. Wells was not alone in his admiration. William Walker, who wrote his *History of the Oundle Schools* in 1956, hoped his two chapters might "serve to restore the vivid colours of the original figure, and present a portrait of the greatest man this writer ever knew, Sanderson of Oundle".

What made Sanderson by far the greatest in a long line of headmasters going back to the school's foundation in 1485? Under his predecessors, the pupils had received a stereotyped classical education, but in 1892 the school's governing body, the Most Worshipful Company of Grocers, appointed him to transform Oundle.

In addition to classical tuition, he was to provide a modern side in languages, science and engineering. So began the present day tradition of releasing pupils from academic studies to pursue practical work in the school workshops, creating a whole generation of captains of

industry are to be re-forged in 1992, with the appointment of an "industrial fellow" who will work with the head of design technology to develop project work in partnership with industrial companies. To fund that appointment and to commemorate this centenary, Oundle is setting up the Sanderson Trust.

In an obituary which appeared as the front-page lead in *The Times Educational*



Sanderson of Oundle

Supplement dated June 24, 1922, the second master described Sanderson as a super-engineer. "It was this grasp of the concrete that gave him such an insight into the mind of the average English boy, with whom the concrete, the actual thing, and not the abstract idea is the sparking point of interest." The duty he imposed on his staff was to find out what interested each boy, to make it "creative" and so to give every pupil a sense of mastery over something.

Sanderson was no "chalk and talk" man: classrooms, he

ening rooms. The real work was to be done in the laboratories, in the library or museum, art room or power station. This real work was also for the first time co-operative, rather than competitive.

Thirty years after Sanderson's arrival at Oundle, he gave a lecture to the National Union of Scientific Workers at University College, London. "The great purpose of teaching is to enlist the boys and girls in the service of man today and man tomorrow," he said. "We must send out workers imbued with the determination to seek and investigate truth — truth that will make them free — and to take great care never to take part in or sympathise with those methods by which the edge of truth is blunted."

These were his last words. Sanderson sat down, then slipped silently from his chair. The chairman, H.G. Wells, hurriedly closed the meeting.

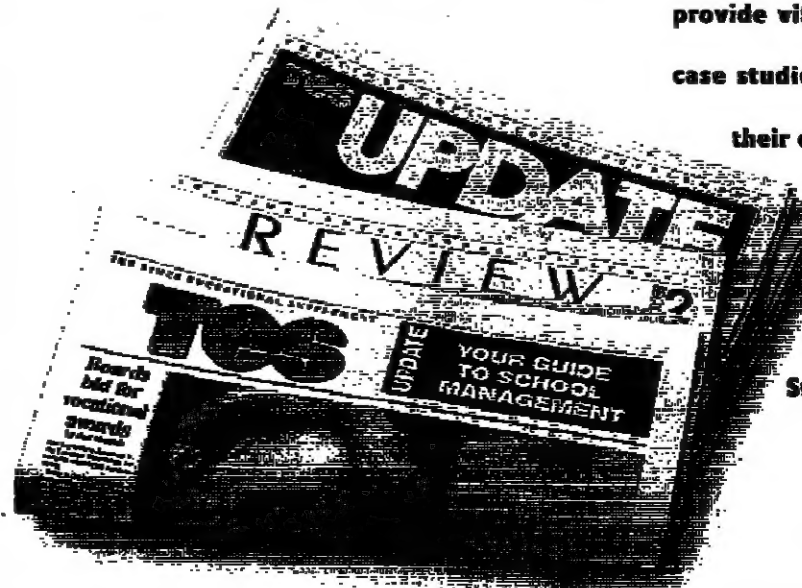
The casket with Sanderson's ashes was placed in a niche in the ambulatory behind the altar of the school's new memorial chapel, which was built to Sanderson's plans to honour all those old boys who died in the first world war, but completed only after his death. An engraved plaque bears the inscription: "Frederick William Sanderson, Headmaster 1892-1922, to whom God Granted Grace to revive this ancient school which is itself his memorial. By his vision and enthusiasm he transformed the life of the school, promoted its vigorous growth and enhanced its reputation."

ROGER EAMES

• Roger Eames is communications

Why schools are opting out
Schools given alternative to opting out

IN, OUT, IN, OUT, WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?



Every school will now be facing a key decision: To be In or Out.

This Friday 9th October, The TES looks at the issues in our School Management Update magazine.

We assess how either option will affect your school, what the impact will be on teachers and governors and what is involved in running a grant maintained school without local council back-up.

So, whether you are opting out or staying with the local authority, it will provide vital information, analysis and case studies of schools that are under their own management.

Whichever you decide to do, make sure that you read The Times Educational Supplement first.

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The London Institute is the largest centre for art and design education in Europe, with an annual budget of over £40m and assets exceeding £100m. It embraces some of the most prestigious colleges in the world where these subjects may be studied. It has key ambitions to continue to develop and influence the direction and purpose of education and training worldwide.

Two additional members are now sought to strengthen the Corporate Management Team. Applicants may come from any background and discipline but should have proven managerial experience and be capable of providing academic leadership and strategic direction for these Colleges.

Further details are available from:
Andrea Puddefoot, The London Institute,
388-396 Oxford Street, London W1R 1FE.
Telephone: 071-491 8533 ext. 247

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THE ALICE OTTLEY SCHOOL
BURSAR

Applications are invited for the post of Bursar, who is also Secretary to the School Council, at this independent day school for 700 girls, to start in April 1993.

Full particulars may be obtained from:

The Secretary to the Council
The Alice Ottley School
Upper Tything
Worcester WR1 1HW

(Telephone 0905-21394; Fax 0905-26564)

Closing date for applications 5th November

UNIVERSITY OF BATH

SCHOOL OF CHEMISTRY

PROFESSOR OF
PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for the Chair of Physical Chemistry which will become vacant from January 1993. Candidates with a strong track record in experimental and/or theoretical physical chemistry are invited to seek further particulars about the appointment.

The School has established a strong research profile with its recent appointments at lecturer and professorial level. It is intended through this appointment to maintain and improve our research profile.

Further particulars are available from Peter J Hill, Director of Personnel, University of Bath, Claverton Down, Bath BA2 7AY, (tel 0225 826000; fax 0225 826500).

Informal contact may be made with Professor Malcolm Campbell (Organic Chemistry) on 0225 826085 or Professor Michael Green (Inorganic Chemistry) on 0225 826445. The closing date for applications is 15th December 1992.

BURLEIGH COLLEGE

has a vacancy for short-hand typing and word processing tutor to start in mid-October.

Please ring Anita Goswami for further details on:
081 906 0273 or 0831 568545

FELLOWSHIPS

JESUS COLLEGE,
OXFORD

(1) Junior Research Fellow in Economics 1993-1994

The College proposes to elect a Junior Fellowship, tenable for two to three years from 1 October 1993. The post is open to men and women intending to pursue research in Economics.

Further information may be obtained from the Principal's Secretary, Jesus College, Oxford OX1 3DW, who should receive applications by 13 November 1992. It is the responsibility of applicants to send their references direct to the Principal's Secretary by the same date.

(2) Junior Research Fellow in Chemistry 1993-94

The College proposes to elect a Junior Research Fellowship, tenable for two to three years from 1 October 1993. The post is open to men and women intending to pursue research in any field of Chemistry.

Further information may be obtained from the Principal's Secretary, Jesus College, Oxford OX1 3DW, who should receive applications by 13 November 1992. It is the responsibility of applicants to send their references direct to the Principal's Secretary by the same date.

Jesus College is an equal opportunity employer.

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THORON AWARDS

Under the provisions of the John J. Thuron Award, applications are invited for the 1993-1994 THORON AWARDS of the value of \$10,000 each plus tuition fees and travel for one year from 1 September, 1993, at the postgraduate level in any recognised department of study in the UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, Philadelphia, U.S.A.

Prospective applicants should send a statement (200 words) and address "10-11" envelope to the Registrar (Thuron Award), University of Chicago, Chicago IL 60637.

Monday 15 December 1992

Professor Sir Donald Harrison, Professor of Surgery

Wednesday 16 December 1992

Professor Sir Donald Harrison, Professor of Surgery

Thursday 17 December 1992

Professor Sir Donald Harrison, Professor of Surgery

Friday 18 December 1992

Professor Sir Donald Harrison, Professor of Surgery

Saturday 19 December 1992

Professor Sir Donald Harrison, Professor of Surgery

Sunday 20 December 1992

Professor Sir Donald Harrison, Professor of Surgery

Monday 21 December 1992

Professor Sir Donald Harrison, Professor of Surgery

Tuesday 22 December 1992

Professor Sir Donald Harrison, Professor of Surgery

Wednesday 23 December 1992

Professor Sir Donald Harrison, Professor of Surgery

Thursday 24 December 1992

Professor Sir Donald Harrison, Professor of Surgery

Friday 25 December 1992

Professor Sir Donald Harrison, Professor of Surgery

Saturday 26 December 1992

Professor Sir Donald Harrison, Professor of Surgery

Sunday 27 December 1992

Professor Sir Donald Harrison, Professor of Surgery

Monday 28 December 1992

Professor Sir Donald Harrison, Professor of Surgery

Tuesday 29 December 1992

Professor Sir Donald Harrison, Professor of Surgery

Wednesday 30 December 1992

Professor Sir Donald Harrison, Professor of Surgery

Thursday 31 December 1992

Professor Sir Donald Harrison, Professor of Surgery

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

The University of Manchester

Simon Industrial
and Professional
Fellowships

Applications are invited for SIMON INDUSTRIAL AND PROFESSIONAL FELLOWSHIPS tenable during the academic session 1993-94. The Fellowships are intended to provide opportunities for persons employed in industry, commerce, the public service, the professions, or who are self-employed to be associated with the departments within the University. The association may be for research purposes or for developing teaching or continuing education, or for such other purposes as deemed appropriate by the awarding committee.

Stipends, where appropriate, within the range £12,129 - £28,742 per annum according to qualifications and experience. These Fellowships are not awarded for postgraduate study. Enquiries about the scope of the Fellowships are welcomed.

Further particulars and application forms (returnable by December 1st, 1992) are obtainable from the Registrar (Academic Staffing Office), the University, Manchester M13 9PL. (Tel. 061 275 2028). Please quote ref. 202/92/T.

Note these Fellowships should not be confused with the Simon Research Fellowships (Social Sciences) which have been advertised separately.

The University is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

The University of Manchester

Senior Fellowships

Applications are invited for SIMON RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS in any of the Social Sciences, including Law and Education, tenable during the academic session 1993/94.

Stipends, where applicable, normally within the range £12,129 - £23,739 p.a. (Simon Research Fellowships) or £24,922 - £28,165 p.a. (Simon Senior Research Fellowships) according to qualifications and experience. These Fellowships should not be confused with the Simon Industrial and Professional Fellowships which have been advertised separately.

Applications are invited for HALLSWORTH FELLOWSHIPS in advanced work in the field of Political Economy (including Public Administration). Stipends, where applicable, within the range £12,129 - £28,742 p.a. according to qualifications and experience.

These Fellowships are not awarded for postgraduate study and applicants should have experience which will qualify them to carry out a substantial piece of original research. Enquiries about the scope of the Fellowships are welcomed.

Further particulars and application forms (returnable by December 1st, 1992) are obtainable from the Registrar (Academic Staffing Office), the University, Manchester M13 9PL. (Tel. 061 275 2028). Please state for which Fellowship details are required and quote ref. 201/92/T.

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SCHOLARSHIPS

Junior Scholarships for Boys at Maintained Primary Schools

Up to four scholarships are offered to boys who will be over ten and under eleven years of age on 1 September 1993 and who are currently attending a maintained primary school.

After two (or three) years at a selected preparatory school, either as a day boy or boarder, a Junior Scholar takes up a reserved place at Eton. Financial assistance will be provided to meet (up to the value of full fees if necessary) to pay for both preparatory school education and Eton.

The Junior Scholarship Examination will be held at Eton on Saturday, 6 February; the closing date for applications is Wednesday, 13 January. Applications forms and further particulars of Junior Scholarships can be obtained from: The Registrar, Eton College, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 6DB.

Sixth Form Scholarships for Boys at Maintained Secondary Schools

Up to four scholarships are offered to boys taking GCSE in the summer of 1993 from maintained secondary schools.

These awards are tenable for two years, during which their holders study three subjects to Advanced level. Financial assistance will be provided according to need (up to the value of full fees if necessary).

The Sixth Form Scholarship Examination will be held at Eton on Friday, 12 February and Saturday, 13 February; the closing date for applications is Monday, 14 December 1992.

Applications forms and further particulars of Sixth Form Scholarships can be obtained from: The Head Master's Secretary, Eton College, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 6DW.

SIXTH FORM PLACES
AND SCHOLARSHIPS
SEPTEMBER 1993HAILEYBURY
(RMC Boys School with Girls in Sixth Form and some day places)

Up to six Scholarships (including Academic, Music & Art) are awarded each year to external candidates (boys and girls) wishing to join the Haileybury Sixth Form. The examinations and interviews take place on 18th and 19th November, giving applicants a chance to spend two days at Haileybury.

Candidates choose two specialist subjects in which to be examined and all candidates sit Maths, English and a Reasoning Test. Offers of places are made to suitable applicants who do not gain an award. Closing date for entry: 2nd November, 1992.

Non-Scholarship Sixth Form places are offered to girls (and a few boys), with tests and interviews on 19th & 20th November. Closing date for entry: 2nd November. (A further round of tests will take place in February 1993.)

For further details of the examinations and our Sixth Form entry procedures, apply to: The Registrar, Haileybury, Hertford, SG13 7RU. Tel: 0992 463343

The University of Sheffield
Department of Automatic
Control & Systems
EngineeringFREQUENCY DOMAIN
ANALYSIS OF NONLINEAR
SYSTEMS
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Applications are invited for the above post to start as soon as possible, tenable until October 1996. The project will involve the development and application of mathematical theories for the study of nonlinear systems in the frequency domain. This will require a knowledge of functional analysis, algebraic topology and complex function theory in higher dimensions. The appointee will be working in the stimulating environment of a '5' rated Department and be at the leading edge of nonlinear systems theory.

Applicants should have, or soon be finishing a PhD in mathematics or mathematical control theory or a related field. Starting salary within £14,359 - £15,688 pa (under review).

Further particulars from Director of Personnel Services, The University of Sheffield, P.O. Box 594, Fifth Court, Western Bank, Sheffield S10 2UH. Tel: 0742 768555 ext 4144 (0742 824144 outside office hours), to whom applications, including a full CV and the names/addresses of two referees (two copies of all documents), should be sent by 2 November 1992. Ref:R205.

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LECTURESHIPS

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM
DEPARTMENT OF LAW
LECTURESHIPS IN LAW

As part of its continued programme of expansion in Law, the University invites applications for two Lectureships in Law. One post is open to candidates with a particular interest in Public International Law and the other post to candidates with interests in any area of legal scholarship. Both posts are tenable from 1 January 1993 or from a mutually agreeable date.

Salary will be on either the Lecturer A or B scale (£12,860 - £17,827 or £18,572 - £23,739 pa, pay award pending), depending upon qualifications and experience.

Application forms (returnable by 30 October 1992) and further details from the Personnel Officer, Old Shire Hall, Durham DH1 1SH (tel: 091 574 3158). Please quote ref A137.

COURSES

Lectureship in Human
Resources and Service
Management

Grade A or B: £12,348 - £20,060 - £24,704
(Currently under review)

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Human Resources with a special interest in Service Management with effect from 1 January 1993, or as soon as possible thereafter.

Informal enquiries should be directed to Mr J. Pashley, Head of Business Studies (ext: 3321).

Further particulars are available from The Assistant Registrar, The University of Buckingham, Buckingham MK18 1EG to whom applications, (eight copies) with a curriculum vitae including the names of three referees should be sent not later than 27 October, 1992.

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Fax: 0280 822245

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BARRICAN
LONDON EC2Y 8BB

GSA Day School for 650 girls 7-18 years. The school has a modern, fully-equipped, building on the splendid Barrican site.

Scholarships (including music) and Assisted Places are available.

Applications for entry at 7+ and 11+ in September 1993 should reach the school by 1st December 1992.

Applications for sixth form places are required by 15th December 1992.

OPEN DAYS: Tuesday 6th October

Wednesday 10th October

8th FORM EVENING: Wednesday 14th October

Further details and prospectus from the Admissions Secretary.

Telephone: 071 - 828 0841.

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3

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Based in leading office,
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EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

£23k per rate (15 hrs)

This is a professional position

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Well developed verbal skills

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PA TO MD £18,000+

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Spanish, French, German, Italian, Microsoft, Word for Windows, Word Perfect 3.1, AppleMac, Decima, Mass II, ICL, Wang, DW4.

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A highly prestigious American investment bank requires a fluent German speaking secretary, with Word for Windows for a long-term assignment. Age 22-30 Skills -760, starting 12th October.

If you are a bilingual temporary secretary, who works to the highest standards, with excellent linguistic and secretarial skills, in addition to an in-depth knowledge of two or more of the above packages, we look forward to hearing from you.

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Wir suchen eine qualifizierte zweisprachige Sekretärin (25-35) für den M & A Direktor einer internationalen Bank in Zentrum London, (ab Jan 93) Docklands.

Qualifikationen: Gute Ausbildung, Deutsch als Muttersprache, ausgezeichnetes Englisch, mehrjährige Berufserfahrung idealerweise im Finanzsektor, Maschinenschreiben 60-wpm (Word for Windows) und deutsch/englisch Schrift. Profil: Reif, belastbar und ausdauernd. Gewandt am Telefon und im Umgang mit Menschen. Dynamisch, organisiert und einsatzbereit. Sie arbeiten gut in einem internationalen Team, und sind ein engagierter Arbeitsgänger und halten die Stellung für ihren Chef, der viel unterwegs ist. Ihr Einsatz und Berufsethos werden grossgeschätzt.

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required for busy sales office. Responsibilities will include:

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* computer experience preferable but not essential (training will be given)

Salary negotiable, plus good benefits.

Please send detailed CV to Box No 3769

15 Mansfield Street,
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The Royal College of Midwives invites applications for two senior positions.

PA TO THE DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS

The Director of Professional Affairs of the College is seeking an experienced and intelligent person with initiative and sound organisational ability to act as her Personal Assistant.

The post would suit a person with drive and initiative, keen to play an active part at a high level within the organisation, and able to take responsibility for many of the administrative functions associated with the Professional Department.

Good secretarial skills including WP, audio and minute taking are required. The successful candidate will co-ordinate the work of the secretarial team, and will therefore also have experience of supervising staff.

Annual salary is currently £14,484 - £17,076 inclusive of London Weighting.

Administrative Assistant to the College Administrator

This post offers an opportunity to play an essential part in the successful day-to-day organisation of the College by supporting all areas of the work of the College Administrator including Fundraising, Membership, Marketing and Office Services.

We are looking for a person with good WP and audio skills and a sound secretarial background. The successful candidate will be confident both in carrying out assignments using his/her own initiative and in dealing with a wide variety of people.

Annual salary is currently £12,352 - £14,484 inclusive of London Weighting.

Contact the Administrative Officer for a job description and Application Form on 071-580 6523 extension 215. Closing date for receipt of completed applications is Monday 12th October 1992.

TEL: 071 481 4000

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££ in excess of £20,000

As PA co-ordinator to this enthusiastic, young American (newly promoted to MD of Trading Floor) you will have a demanding and involved role. In addition to the usual secretarial duties you will be responsible for extensive international liaison.

(New York, Tokyo, Hong Kong), organisation of client visits, presentations, receptions; complicated travel arrangements; co-ordination of departmental recruitment and training; management of expenses and budgets.

This is an exciting and challenging position offering you ample opportunity to develop. To meet the challenge you must be aged 25-30, smartly presented with a strong, resilient and gregarious personality. Your skills must be good, 100-60 plus WP/computer experience. A background in finance would be an advantage.

However, the right personality will win the day.

For further information please call Marianne Hope on:

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Opportunity for a Graduate (age 22-25) to train as a Trader in the world's most oil markets. You will be working under the supervision of an experienced trader and will have a strong desire to step onto a serious career path.

Key words: oil trading, oil supply, oil trading, oil supply, oil trading, oil supply.

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Our Business Development division seeks an intelligent and organised individual to provide secretarial and sales support to their team.

Ideal candidate is a self-motivated person with the ability to prioritise workload and enhance the efficiency of this business unit.

Development of the Sales Support function entails the responsibility for customer and product administration.

Salary is commensurate with age and experience, and benefits include BUPA and non-contributory pension scheme.

This position initially contracted on a short-term basis, will be confirmed after performance review.

Please reply in confidence, enclosing CV, to: Lindsey Bradley

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CHAIRMAN'S PA £23,000

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